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# PUNXSUTAWNEY CENTENNIAL

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Welcome  
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# THE PRIDE OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

Lyrics by  
WILLIAM W. PRATT

Music by  
JOHN GRANGER

**Brisk**

Let us sing of a king who comes out to greet the spring, Where the Penn-syl-va-nia hills are

**slower**

bon - ny. — He's a ground - bog sage who can shame a weath - er gauge, And the

**slow and marked in tempo**

**brisk**

pride of PUNX-SU-TAW-NEY Be our lot cold or hot He can tell us on the spot, For he's

**slower**

there a head of an - y John - ny, — He's the one who sees what is

Copyright 1949 by William W. Pratt and John Granger  
Printed in U. S. A.

**slow and marked in tempo**

threat-ened by a breeze, And the pride of PUNX-SU-TAW-NEY. He's a seer with a truth-ful

sto - ry that has brought him glo - ry all a-round the earth. Ev - 'ry year af - ter sleep and

**brisk**

fast-ing comes the shad-ow cast-ing that has proved his worth, and his roy - al birth. Be - ing

wise to the size of the snow-flakes in the skies He's as sa-mous as the riv - er Swa-nee. He's a

**slower**

proph - et who real - ly knows a thing or two, And the pride of PUNX-SU-TAW-NEY.

**slow and marked in tempo**



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To the  
CITIZENS OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

*whose invaluable assistance  
made possible  
this record of our town,  
we gratefully  
dedicate this volume.*





## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the year 1949 will mark the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough of Punxsutawney and whereas, the past 100 years have been a time of constant progress and growth in our borough, it is fitting that the people of Punxsutawney commemorate this momentous occasion.

I, John C. Shermer, burgess of the Borough of Punxsutawney, by virtue of my position as elected head of the executive branch of our borough government, do hereby proclaim beginning July 31st and ending Midnight Saturday August 6th 1949 as the "100th Anniversary Week" and urge all business places in the borough close their places of business during the times of the parades. I further urge that all residents of Punxsutawney attend the celebration.

There will be street parades, games and contests on the high school athletic fields, followed by historical pageants and fireworks after dark.

Refreshments will be on sale by various organizations of the community at all times.

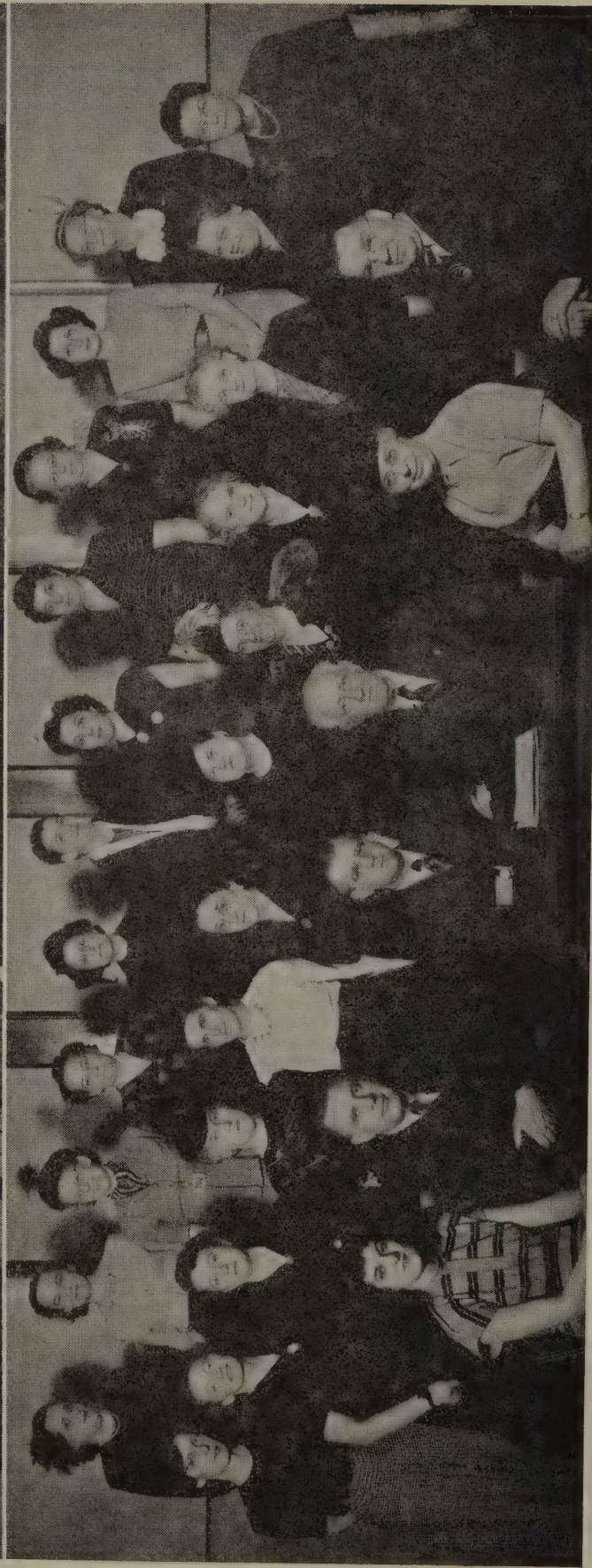
I further urge all residents to invite to this grand celebration their friends from neighboring communities and former residents who have moved away from Punxsutawney.

Witness my hand and seal this 18th day of July, A. D. 1949.

(SEAL)

JOHN C. SHERMER,  
Burgess.





First Row: Valerie DeLuca, Robert M. Gay, William H. Hampton, Dr. H. B. Winter, Margaret C. Boles, Leo D. Sullivan. Second Row: Margaret McLister, Jene Grossman, Rose Neal, Erna Silver, Flossie Ward, Ella Straitiff, Sophia O'Keefe, Lou Miller, Margaret F. Taladay, Minnie Hoover, Olive Wolfe, Violet Jones. Third Row: Helen Rishell, Izola Cavazza, Florence Lloyd, Mary Means, Leone Lossman, Elizabeth Stewart, Philippine Bianco, Josephine Barletta, Twila Snyder, Dorothy Kurtz, Mary Hartman. Fourth Row: Jacob Startzell, Sam Garner, Roy Meneely, Charles Shankosky, Paul Grube, Frank Harl, Mick Tronzo, Clement Biggs. Fifth Row: A. T. Patterson, John McGonagle, Wayne Smith, George Cramer, Joseph Barclay, John Galbraith, Jack Hargraves.



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MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION .....	Rev. E. E. Oney
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ALPHA PHI ZETA CHI .....	Izola Cavazza
SPORTSMEN'S CLUB .....	Adam Barnoff
LIONS CLUB .....	Arthur DeLuca
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BETA PHI ZETA CHI .....	Mrs. Kenneth McIntosh
PRINCESS MARIA LODGE .....	Pauline Meyo
LINDSEY FIRE COMPANY .....	Joseph A. Phillips
UNITED COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS .....	G. C. Blose
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B. P. O. ELKS .....	Mervin Means
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GARDEN CLUB .....	Mrs. D. R. Thomas
KIWANIS CLUB .....	Wm. E. Gilliland
ADRIAN HOSPITAL AUXILIARY .....	Mrs. Jean H. White
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CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA .....	Mrs. C. Garzoni
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LITTLE LEO CORPORATION .....	Oliver C. Barnette
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Seated: Betsy Gibson, Rachel Nelson, Mona Brohm, Barbara Kessler, Barbara Eggleston, Kim Freas. Standing: Miss Margaret Boles (advisor), Rae Whiteman, David McLaughlin, Claudia King, Phebe Smith, Nancy Philliber, Lowell Peoples, Paul Feicht.

## Editorial Staff

The "History of Punxsutawney" was compiled and edited by the Department of English, Punxsutawney High School, under the direction of Miss Margaret Cabell Boles, head of the English Department.

Editorial Staff of the Punxsutawney High School pupils consisted of:

Chairman .....Phebe Smith

Associates.....Mona Brohm, Barbara Eggleston, Paul Feicht,  
Kimball Frease, Betsy Gibson, Barbara Kessler, Claudia King, David  
McLaughlin, Rachel Nelson, Lowell Peoples, Nancy Philliber, Rae  
Whiteman.

The entire staff wishes to thank those citizens of Punxsutawney who gave freely of their time and effort in making it possible to compile the material contained within this History.





Seated: Jo Anne Hardick, Marianne McClusky, Glenna Hetrick, Mrs. B. Lewis. Standing: Eugene Barnoff, Louise Johnson, Emily Funk, Carl Depp, Joanne Zeitler, Charline McCurdy, Kenneth Jones.

## Centennial Speakers Committee

Public speaking students were elected to present Centennial speeches to Punxsutawney clubs and organizations. The selections made were based upon student preparation and presentation. Letters were mailed to the organizations suggesting speakers and topics available the second semester. Necessary arrangements were taken to fulfill the engagements. The topics were as follows:

*The History of Punxsutawney Playgrounds*  
*The History of Punxsutawney Y.M.C.A.*

*The History of Punxsutawney Lodges*  
*The History of Punxsutawney Service Clubs*

*The History of Punxsutawney Churches*

Organization	Date	Topic	Student Representative
Adrian Hospital Auxiliary	2-2-49	History of Playgrounds	Marianne McClusky
American Legion	2-4-49	History of Service Clubs	Emily Funk
Progressive Study Club	2-7-49	History of Churches	Joanne Zeitler
Irving Club	2-7-49	History of Bands	Charline McCurdy
Loyal Circle Class (Lutheran Church)	2-7-49	History of Churches	Eugene Barnoff
Kiwanis Club	2-14-49	History of Bands	Charline McCurdy
Radio Broadcast (P.H.S.)	2-15-49	History of Bands	Charline McCurdy
P.T.A. West End School	2-17-49	History of Bands	Glenna Hetrick
		History of Playgrounds	Kenneth Jones
		History of Y.M.C.A.	Jo Anne Hardick
Women's Club	2-21-49	History of Playgrounds	Louise Johnson
		History of Churches	Eugene Barnoff
Robinson-Murrison Auxiliary	2-23-49	History of Playgrounds	Kenneth Jones
Radio Broadcast (P.H.S.)	3-1-49	History of Playgrounds	Kenneth Jones
Women of the Moose	3-2-49	History of Lodges	Carl Depp
"Y" Auxiliary	3-3-49	History of Y.M.C.A.	Jo Anne Hardick
Radio Broadcast (P.H.S.)	3-15-49	History of Lodges	Carl Depp
P.T.A. West End School	3-17-49	History of Lodges	Carl Depp
Radio Broadcast (P.H.S.)	4-5-49	History of Y.M.C.A.	Jo Anne Hardick
Radio Broadcast (P.H.S.)	4-12-49	History of Churches	Eugene Barnoff
Garden Club	5-3-49	History of Service Clubs	Emily Funk





First Row: Georgie Ann Funk, Greta Armstrong, Joan Stiver, Vivian Gall, Helen Meterko, Patricia Altman, Barbara Kessler, Frieda Dilts, Lois Jordan, Betsy Gibson, Mona Brohm. Second Row: Betty Nase, Donna Hardie, Gloria Maruca, Marcella Anderson, Mary Matts, Anna Cochran, Mrs. George West, Joyce Snkey, Barbara Freas, Kim Frease, Emily Funk, Rae Whitman, Eleanor Martin. Third Row: Claudia King, Connie Haag, Marjorie Means, Jeanne Tibby, Lois Geist, Joanne Lill, Jo Anne Hardick, Marianne McCluskey, Barbara Eggleston, Betty Lazorcak, Marie Montgomery, Shelly Schrecongost, Dianne Wineberg. Fourth Row: Jeanne Brown, Erma Gaul, Geraldine McGlumphy, Bea Mae Staples, Marcia Reid, Lois Shaffer, Deloris Dubensky, Ann Kurtz, Rachel Nelson, Mary Kephart, Joyce Snyder, Phebe Smith.

## Official Hostesses

Due to the outstanding leadership and character of the Senior Tri-Hi-Y of Punxsutawney High School, under the sponsorship of Mrs. George West, the members were selected to be the official hostesses of the Punxsutawney Centennial Celebration. This organization was chosen because of its high Christian character and its ability to create, maintain, and extend throughout the home, school, and community, the high standards of this character. The girls are worthy of this honor for their actions are democratic, their ideals are high, their purposes are sincere.

Their work during the week includes directing visitors and dignitaries to hotels and restaurants, selling histories and programs, ushering at the pageant, and acting in the capacity of traffic control personnel during the Youth Day Parade. The girls, attired in blue and gold uniforms, are also required to know the best routes to and from Punxsutawney.



## Preface

The contents of this volume are published as an integral part of Punxsutawney's celebration of its one hundredth anniversary as a municipality. The material is divided into two sections—the first, a comprehensive history of the community's settlement and growth; and the second, a detailed presentation of its institutions, industries, organizations, etc.

The following members of the editorial staff under the supervision of Miss Margaret C. Boles, head of the English Department of Punxsutawney High School, labored diligently in the compiling and editing of this book: Phebe Smith, Chairman; Mona Brohm, Barbara Eggleston, Paul Feicht, Kimball Frease, Betsy Gibson, Barbara Kessler, Claudia King, David McLaughlin, Rachel Nelson, Lowell Peoples, Nancy Philliber, and Rae Whiteman.

This record of the community is, however, the work of many other persons also. Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade English classes of Punxsutawney High School have made a considerable contribution to this work. A notable part of its contents is the direct result of essay contests conducted in Saints Cosmas and Damian Parochial High School and Punxsutawney High School. Material was also gleaned from the following sources: William J. McKnight's *A Pioneer History of Jefferson County and Jefferson County, Pennsylvania, Her Pioneers and People*; Kate M. Scott's *History of Jefferson County*; W. O. Smith's *Punxsutawney*; William Coxson's *Early Days of Jefferson County and Western Pennsylvania*; the 1900 industrial issue of *The Spirit*; a history compiled by Punxsutawney High School students from 1920-1924; a "question box" conducted by the *Punxsutawney Spirit*; scrapbooks; and personal memoirs.

Notable contributions were made by the following who were interviewed by students: George Carmalt, Mrs. J. R. Davis, Miss Esther Jane Davis, T. R. Davis, Raymond Dereume, Mrs. Isabelle C. Dickson, Hal

Dinsmore, Mrs. J. L. Fisher, Mrs. W. H. Hill, Cam Horner, Mrs. J. Freas Jones, John M. Kendra, J. P. McConnell, H. G. Miller, W. G. Morrison, Mrs. Francis O'Keefe, Mrs. Charles Otto, Jr., Mrs. C. B. Robinson, Mrs. Ella Smith, J. R. Staples, E. S. Swartz, W. G. Thomas, W. C. Tibby, Henry Torrence, Herm Weiss, Jean White, Miss Olive Wood, and Miss Nan Wilson. Valuable material for the use of the history committee was lent by Miss Emma Kelso, J. A. Organ, Mrs. Charles Otto, Jr., Miss Nan Wilson, Miss Olive Wood, Miss Dorothy Jenks, and J. A. Stauffer of Sykesville. In addition to the abovementioned, William Hampton and Jean White have given freely of their time and resources in aiding the history committee.

Most of the typing was done by the Commercial Department of Punxsutawney High School, under the supervision of Miss Mable Monroe. Three students in particular, Joy Bell, Anna Brown, and Nancy Chapman, are responsible for much of this work.

It is impossible to include here the names of all those who contributed to this volume; but to those named and to those unnamed, we are sincerely grateful.

While three histories dealing with Punxsutawney (Kate Scott's *History of Jefferson County*, Caldwell's *History of Jefferson County*, and W. O. Smith's *Punxsutawney*) fix 1849 as the year of Punxsutawney's incorporation as a borough, research, incident to the preparation of this history, brought to light a county record stating that the act of legislature providing for that incorporation was not signed by the Governor of Pennsylvania until February 25, 1850. So, Punxsutawney may be celebrating its centennial a few months in advance of the actual date of incorporation, which is not alarming in light of the fact that all the spade work to bring about Punxsutawney's debut as a borough was done in 1849.

Phebe M. Smith.



## CHAPTER I

# PUNXSUTAWNEY --- OUR HOME

By P. R. JACK

### PREFACE

While writing this history of Punxsutawney from 1814 to 1949, I have attempted to point out the various trends that have taken place in the town, and the way the United States has affected the town in which we live. Very probably I am guilty of omissions and some mistakes. They are not deliberate sins of omission and commission, but are the result of oversight.

The sources for this work are as follows: *The Punxsutawney Plaindealer*, 1868-69. *The Punxsutawney Spirit*, from 1907 to 1949, W. J. McKnight's *History of Jefferson County*, Kate Scott's *History of Jefferson County*, Caldwell's *Atlas of Jefferson County*, W. O. Smith's *History of Punxsutawney*, *World Almanac* of various years, Wright and Corbett's *Pioneer Life in Western Pennsylvania*, Solon and Elizabeth Buck's *Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania*, Dunaway's *History of Pennsylvania*, Godcharles' *History of Pennsylvania*, and George W. Porter's *Autobiography*. One item was taken from the *Appendix of the Laws of the General Assembly, Session of 1851*. To these were added notes and observations taken by myself over the past few years.

March, 1949.

P. R. J.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY AS A BABY

"Home" is Punxsutawney, in the County of Jefferson, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America. All three have their histories which are highly interesting. All have been influenced by, and have in turn influenced, the village on the Big Mahoning Creek. The history of Punxsutawney is the history of Jefferson County, Pennsylvania, and the United States. The story of people and their towns makes up the tale of the great unit. Action and reaction of all ages is shown in the story of Punxsutawney. The people that lived, are living, and will live here are, and will be, in on the ground floor when it comes to making history.

Long has it been since the Earth was first rolled out into its present form. Many have been the tribes, cities, and nations that have arisen and fallen since man began his struggle toward civilization. Of all the cities, nations, and people, those most important to us here in Punxsutawney are the people that settled and lived here, this city which they built, and the nation in which they resided.

Briefly, the beginnings of Punxsutawney's story come rather late in the history of the United States. Taking the settling of Virginia in 1607 as the accepted beginning of the colonization by the British, it can be readily seen that Punxsutawney's origin is fairly recent. Even compared with the opening of Pennsylvania, by "Old Billy Penn" in 1681, the establishing of Punxsutawney came late.

The colonies had broken away from the motherland, had made the Louisiana Purchase, had fought the War of 1812, and were fighting the Indians in the West before white men gathered here in sufficient quantities to justify the existence of a town. Pennsylvania was well settled in the Southeast, the Southwest was booming right along, with Pittsburgh industriously earning the title of "The Gateway of the West." Around Lake Erie, Perry had defeated the British, and the New Englanders were pushing the completion of their settlement.

Keeping in mind that Punxsutawney was not even dreamed of while many of the events that are great in American history were taking place, some preview can be taken of the events and things that led to the origin of the town Punxsutawney.

The area in which Punxsutawney was to be settled lay in that part of Pennsylvania commonly termed "Western Pennsylvania." This section of the state is separated from the Eastern portion by the Allegheny Mountains. The eyes of Western Pennsylvanians have never been turned to the East, except for state government. This area has long been Western in its outlook and actions. It was frontier long after Eastern Pennsylvania had been well settled; different modes of life were in vogue in the two areas at the same time. All in all, Western Pennsylvanians are considered, both by themselves and by others, as a distinct breed of cats when compared with the eastern inhabitants of the state.

Punxsutawney itself lies within a very peculiar area, speaking more in a social than a physical sense. It is on the southern edge of one of the most isolated sections of the United States; an area that is comparable in many ways to the Great Smoky Mountains. Physically, the town lies about 170 miles from the state capital Harrisburg, and roughly 90 miles from Pittsburgh, the thriving metropolis to the southwest. The important Ohio country is only about 120 miles to the west, as compared with the 300 miles to Philadelphia and the other sea coast strongholds of commerce and politics. The net result of this situation, both physical and social, is that Punxsutawney has not had in the past, and does not possess at the present time, superior facilities for the ready accession of economic, cultural, and political assets except by rather arduous efforts.

The physical situation and equipment of this area probably had a very marked effect on the settling of Punxsutawney and the surrounding territory. The natural and artificial routes of approach to the West did not pass through Jefferson County. It is only natural that the settlement of this place has a distinct resemblance to the back wash of civilization. Punxsutawney is more the result of the integration of America than the result of the hardy settler battling his way West against the bloodthirsty Indians and other almost insurmountable odds as depicted in the typical Western picture.

The idea that Punxsutawney and Jefferson County had no inhabitants, and that it was a desolate waste barren of all marks of human efforts, must not be conceived. Such was not the case. The area was known to the American Indians, and was lived in by them. It was important as a mid-point in their travels from New York to the Pittsburgh region, and from the eastern part of the state via Clearfield and other intermediate points.

The Delaware Indians were the first, and probably the only, real Indian settlers of Punxsutawney. The Six Nations or Iroquois never entered the state except in very small numbers, although the Delawares were



the acknowledged vassals of this confederation. Of course various war parties of the Senecas, perhaps the most powerful member of the Six Nations, did swoop down into the Pittsburgh territory to terrorize the settlers and to enforce the defeat of the Delawares.

Different white people are known to have traveled throughout southern Jefferson County, on varied expeditions, and for diverse reasons, both voluntary and involuntary. Although some unknown trapper or hunter may have plied his trade here, the first definitely authenticated note of whites within the confines of Punxsutawney was the presence of Marie Le Roy and Barbara Leininger. These two girls were captured, on what is known as the "Penn's Creek Massacre," by Delaware Indians on the warpath near Sunbury, in Northumberland County. This happened in 1755. The party was on the trail that ran from Clearfield through Punxsutawney to its destination in Kittanning, then the foremost Delaware Indian town of Western Pennsylvania. It was from Kittanning that most of the harassing and destructive war parties of the Delawares set out, and from Kittanning they were directed in their marauding. The girls were kept in the Punxsutawney area for five days while the braves rested from their labors. From here they were taken to Kittanning and thence to the Ohio country, all the while performing the labors which the Indians assigned to such captives. In the narrative set forth by the girls no information of any value concerning Punxsutawney is entered, except for the mention of its location and inhabitants.

Seventeen years later, in 1772, the Reverend John Ettwein passed through Punxsutawney, accompanied by some Christianized Moravian Indians. Remarks in his diary are anything but complimentary. The weather was wet, and the mosquitoes were almost compared with some of the exquisite tortures of the Middle Ages. However, a more complete picture of conditions in Punxsutawney is rendered. The ground on which Punxsutawney now stands was definitely swampy, and the Indian town there situated was a rather large one. Ettwein, one of the Moravian missionaries who made a sincere effort to master the Indian dialects, is the authority for claiming that "Punxsutawney" is derived from the Indian words meaning "the town of the ponkies." That is perhaps his most important contribution to our knowledge of the town's past.

The Revolutionary War had not been long past when the surveyors were close on the heels of Ettwein and his party. The soldiers of the Revolution were demanding pay, and the western lands promised an avenue of escape for the authorities who were facing the gathering storm.

The lands of Western Pennsylvania lay within the boundaries of the Fort Stanwix, now Rome, New York, purchase of land from the Six Nations in 1784. The surveyors were then set into the area to determine the boundaries. Elijah Graham, Deputy-Surveyor Broadhead, James Potter, and Richard Shearer all went through Jefferson County by various routes, although none appears to have had any appreciable activity around Punxsutawney. However, it is highly probable that some managed to walk over the ground at least. Evidently Elijah Graham thought enough of the territory to return to Jefferson County in 1797, and to settle permanently.

After the purchase lands had been surveyed into the districts for the soldiers who had been given scrip

to make their purchases, the rest of the purchase land was opened to the rest of the people, by the Land Act of 1792. Jefferson County lay within the latter section. Here the land was sold for about thirteen cents per acre. No limit was imposed on the amounts which could be purchased by any one individual. Here was the land available for those who had not been soldiers, and who wished to move west in keeping with the spirit of the growing country.

The rights to these lands, speaking principally of Jefferson County, passed into the hands of the Holland Land Company. This was a land-speculating company established in the 1790's by a group of Dutch capitalists. However, most of the land was taken up prior to this, and the Hollanders found themselves, according to two historians of Western Pennsylvania, "in possession of vast areas of rough and at that time practically worthless land in what are now Potter, McKean, Cameron, Elk, and Jefferson counties." It is also certain that the investors suffered monetary losses on this land. This was a very inauspicious beginning for Punxsutawney.

Probably the Indian troubles engendered by the British on the far western frontier, the War of 1812, and the workings of human nature served to inhabit Jefferson County, and later Punxsutawney. In Detroit and other British posts, the Indians were often encouraged to commit depredations against the Americans. This in turn probably caused some people to have a very reasonable doubt about the wisdom of exposing themselves to such dangers. Historians do consider this to be one good reason for the population of the Western Pennsylvania pocket. Going one step further, it can be easily seen that Punxsutawney was inside this pocket and would naturally fall into this category.

The spread of people into empty lands has also been marked by a greater willingness to move into areas that are comparatively near to the home of the mover. If someone could move only a hundred or so miles to locate a virgin territory, he would be foolish indeed to head far west. The eastern, north-western, central, and southwestern portions of Pennsylvania were very close to the land held by the legislature for the veterans, and that held by the Holland Land Company. True it is that some of this land was not quite as good for general agriculture as was some of the Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana land, but the fact that it was near helped to settle it.

The stage is now set for the actual settling of Punxsutawney. There can be no doubt that Punxsutawney was peopled long after much of the surrounding territory. Also, there can be no doubt that Punxsutawney was, and is, just as much a part of the American scene as any other segment of this country. It must not be forgotten that the United States is made up of many such segments. This is not the story of an isolated inch of America; it is essentially the story of the nation.

Between 1790 and 1820 the population of Western Pennsylvania had increased from over 400,000 to about a million. The frontier districts were settled. However, Jefferson County had less than 200 people in it. Compared with Beaver County, which had over eight thousand souls in 1810, Jefferson County can be considered in its infancy. After the War of 1812, and the following depression of 1819, the populations of these territories began to increase. It is in this period that Jacob Hoover settled within what were to become the limits of Clayville.



Hoover was preceded into the county by some settlement in the general area of Brookville, more specifically at that place now called Port Barnett. McKnight tells us that only seven or eight families were living in the county around 1804. One of these families was Negro. These families probably came into the county because of economic needs, rather than from any great pressing social or political drives.

It was not until 1814 that the aforementioned Jacob Hoover settled in what was later to become the West End of Punxsutawney. Hoover and the others before him came into the county over the rough roads that had been hacked out by the pioneers and the Indians. These roads were extremely important, and were very necessary to the transportation of the first settlers. Never make the mistake of thinking that the Indians lived in a howling wilderness. Such a belief is not true. They had a definite system of paths necessary for movement from one area to another.

After Hoover had built his log cabin, he began to work on what was probably the first grist mill to be erected in Punxsutawney. Along with the progress of the grist mill came the wherewithal for the successful operation of the mill; people to grow grain. About 1816 the Reverend David Barclay and Abram Weaver came into Punxsutawney and settled. Elijah Heath arrived on the scene in 1817 or 1818. The families of Charles Gaskill, Isaac Carmalt, John Henderson, and John Hess came later than the preceding ones. Gaskill was a very important personage for he represented the Holland Land Company, the owner of the land which was being settled.

Around 1822 another group of settlers appear to have come to what is now Punxsutawney. James Winslow, "and others," came into Punxsutawney, while Jesse Armstrong settled in Clayville, and Adam Long settled close to the town. From this point on some confusion arises as to the names and dates of immigrants. Coupled with this is the ever-increasing number of settlers. This forces the discontinuance of referring by name to any worthies who entered the town limits—either of Clayville, or Punxsutawney proper. After all, these people coming into the town deserve distinction only insofar as they were the first-comers. This does not detract from their importance; the point is that they did not add anything very startling to the town. They did only what thousands of other firsts were doing: constructing from a new and unopened land the town that people live in today. The names given before call the roll of the first people here; do not forget the unnamed who worked just as hard, and who contributed just as much as these "Mayflower" people. It takes water and a bucket to make a well.

The requirements are many for the construction of a town, especially one in a new land. Perhaps the first is homes. Log cabins were the rule in that day. All should be familiar enough with the log cabin, through experience with the movies, American history in school, and general reading, to realize that life was not easy in such abodes. Often consisting of one room, the log cabin disregarded comfort for practicality. Window glass, smooth sheets, airtight roofs, soft beds, and cheery lights were not present. These people did not even have the hot stove to slave over. The broad and smoking fireplace did duty as the heating unit, and the range. With fields to be plowed, and cattle and other livestock to be

taken care of, these men did not have the time or the energy to expend in building or maintaining quarters that were not productive in an economic sense. If George W. Porter had not died just a few short years ago, the people in Punxsutawney would have been able to say that within the space of two generations—represented by Mr. Porter and his mother—Punxsutawney had progressed from a town made up entirely of cabins to the status of today. In his *Autobiography*, Mr. Porter states that his mother told him that all houses were of log in Punxsutawney when she first entered the town.

The economic basis of early Punxsutawney was strictly agricultural. In 1790 over 90% of all the people living in the United States were on the farm, and the statistical average had not moved very far during the years when the first settlers were arriving in Punxsutawney, 1814 to 1822. Almost all of the economic ventures of early Punxsutawney were designed to take care of this facet of American life.

One of the businesses which carried out agriculture was grist milling. Not long after Jacob Hoover built his cabin in the West End, he built a dam across Saw Mill Run. Digging the race, he then constructed a small grist mill, about eighteen by twenty-five feet in dimension. The burs were made from native rock, with an upright shaft fastened to the upper bur, while the lower was fast. In this place Hoover ground for the surrounding country. The business must have been a profitable one for the Reverend David Barclay soon built another mill, which was on Elk Run just above Punxsutawney. To these mills the farmers brought their grists on horseback or on foot.

The farmers could not raise all the foods nor could they manufacture all the necessary items for their use. Salt, pepper, and some shoes, knives, axes, and other things, were easily supplied by a general store. The first store was set up in 1820, to be followed by a long line of retail merchandisers that stretch down to this very day. Of course, the stores today supply most of the wants for the family; but the store of that day usually carried in stock and depended mostly on items, such as drugs, that were not readily available because of inherent difficulty in making them in the home or growing them on the farm. As time passed, people began to depend more and more on the retail store; especially when life began to be a little more industrialized in the town itself. With most of the people on a farm, and practically none engaged in rendering services to others, the store was not needed to any great extent.

An activity that could be carried on in the same place as grist milling was the saw milling. The water power that ran the grist mill could easily be used for the sawing of lumber for homes and other uses. Not long after Hoover began his milling career, he erected a saw mill on Saw Mill Run. The total cost was about \$300, of which \$100 went for iron and \$200 for various other needs. This mill placed the saw perpendicular to the log—the so-called up and down type—"up today and down tomorrow." One man ran this type of mill for twelve hours a day, and produced 2,000 feet of lumber a day. When the sawyer got one log cut, the mill was shut down to permit water to gather in the dam, and to allow the sawyer time to select the log he desired to cut next. Then the mill would be started up, and the procedure would be repeated.



Traveling when Punxsutawney was a baby was far from a simple undertaking. Even a short trip was considered troublesome because moving from one place to the other by the poor roads and horse or foot methods of travel consumed much time and were often uncomfortable. For those reasons, the hotel was important. Early in the history of Punxsutawney hostels were mentioned. Abram Weaver probably opened one soon after his arrival here about 1818. The entertainment of travelers was apparently a lucrative business in the earlier days of Punxsutawney. Not long after Weaver set up his hostelry, the Eagle Hotel was begun in 1824. Like other phases of economic life, the hotel industry seems to have flourished with many changes in ownership which are too numerous to mention. Suffice to say that the hotels were present and were very important to the people of the town both economically and socially. More of this later.

In line with Western Pennsylvania during the period, one of the most important exports of Jefferson County and Punxsutawney was the lumber that was cut and floated down the Big Mahoning Creek to the Allegheny River, and thence to the Ohio. According to Gordon's *Gazeteer of Pennsylvania* published in Philadelphia in 1832, lumber disposed of in the above manner was the principal industry of this area, if one discounts the exportation of venison hams. In 1832, it is claimed that two million feet of lumber were shipped out of the county. Just what fraction of this came from Punxsutawney has not been determined.

One of the later industries to be built up in Punxsutawney was the foundry business. Probably the foundry was designed for the creation, production, and repair of the various metal tools of the agricultural and lumbering industries. The first foundry of Punxsutawney, and for that matter Jefferson County, was established by Jacob Hoover in 1840.

Hand in hand with the economic, political, and social life of the earlier people in Punxsutawney went transportation and communication. In an agricultural economy the two are not very rapid, principally because there is no great need. When an economy becomes, or tries to become, industrialized, then does the need arise for more improved, faster, and more easily handled methods of transportation and spreading of new ideas and news.

Punxsutawney, during its various stages of settlement and development, witnessed all the means of transportation that have been used in history. Many were the weary miles that were walked on foot by Hoover and others who arrived about the same time. Horses were used to haul wagons and to carry men upon their backs. The roads over which people traveled were at first based on the older Indian paths; later crude roads were chewed out of the forests by the counties, townships, and the state of Pennsylvania.

The Chinklacamoose Trail was the name of the Indian trail on which Punxsutawney was situated. This road led from the central-eastern part of the state to the large Delaware Indian towns of Kittanning, on the Allegheny River, and Logstown, on the Ohio. In the period 1820 to 1839 the state fell in with the growing tendency of the United States to encourage by state aid the formation of turnpike companies, and the construction of canals and roads.

Much attention was given to the internal development of the state. The people demanded greater means of transportation, with communication following in its wake, and the politicians acceded to their wishes. The politicians not only were looking after their own best interests—their positions—but also they, in common with the rest of the population, felt that all of these were needed for the proper exploitation of the material resources of Pennsylvania.

The first road of any worth to Punxsutawney was the improvement of the old Chinklacamoose Trail from Milesburg, in Centre County, through Clearfield, Brookville, and to the Allegheny River near the sites of Tionesta and Waterford. Then, in 1825, there was a state road laid out from Indiana through Punxsutawney through Smethport, in McKean County, to Ceres, which is also in McKean County. This was known as the "Ceres" Road, and was finished in 1828. Prior state roads, such as the first one mentioned, had by-passed Punxsutawney, but still had opened up the town somewhat because they had passed within spitting distance of the town, which was a help at least.

The road-building program was not over by any means with the completion of the Ceres Road. The Armstrong and Clearfield Turnpike Company was authorized to begin at Kittanning, pass through Punxsutawney, and to end at the mouth of Anderson Creek, in Clearfield County. In 1834, a state road from the mouth of Bald Eagle Creek, Huntingdon County, was authorized to pass through Clearfield County to Punxsutawney. The "Luthersburg and Punxsutawney Road Company" was set up to build and operate a turnpike between these towns. Another state road was authorized in 1840 to run from Ebensburg to Punxsutawney via Cherry Tree, while in 1843, a state road from Elderton, Armstrong County, to Punxsutawney, by way of Plumville, Indiana County, was laid out.

Many were the local roads laid out by the inhabitants of Punxsutawney to connect their properties. These roads were maintained by the people with no aid from the state or the county. It is apparent that in 1820 some of the inhabitants of the county were eager to have roads connecting Punxsutawney with some of the state roads which did not hit the town directly. Evidences of these wishes can be found in the early records of Indiana County when Jefferson County was attached to it for judicial and legislative purposes.

Communication was furthered along with this growth in the transportation facilities of Punxsutawney, Jefferson County, and the state of Pennsylvania. Once the roads had been set up and somewhat systematized, the passage of mail was enhanced. Before this time the mails had been very irregular, and had depended mostly on the chance of finding some traveler who would carry a letter or message in a certain direction. Special messengers were also occasionally hired.

In 1826 this haphazard arrangement was changed with the appointment of Charles Barclay as postmaster. Punxsutawney was one of the stops on a mail run from Kittanning to Olean, New York, a distance of 110 miles. The mail arrived in this town once every two weeks, and the carrier served all the offices in Jefferson County. The two historians of Jefferson County, W. J. McKnight, and Kate Scott, are not



very clear, and most surely do not agree, on just how often the mail was carried. John Gillespie, one of the early mail carriers, gives some fine material on the mail situation about 1828. When there was no mail for one of the villages, and the surrounding area which it served, he would stuff the mail bag full of crab apples. The sight of the bursting mail sack would delight the eyes of the postmaster, only to cause him disappointment when the hoax was revealed. John W. Jenks is especially mentioned in this respect.

While all this activity was going on in the town and the county, the people kept moving in, settling, and beginning to do their farming. Slowly but surely the county was moving into the form in which it is known today. However, it did not get that way overnight; many stages necessarily had to be transversed before Punxsutawney as it is known today emerged.

Young Township, in which Punxsutawney was situated, grew to 1321 people in the census of 1840. In 1828, there were only 73 taxable people in the township. This decreased to 70 in 1829, went to 146 in 1835, and 271 in 1842. This same rate of growth can be applied to Punxsutawney. With the facilities at hand it is impossible to determine the exact role played by the settlement but it can safely be assumed that it was a very important one.

Too often the social life of a people is ignored when a history is written. People do not, and cannot, live by themselves. They simply are not constituted that way. The interplay, socially, was very important to these early people of Punxsutawney, and has been, by and large, ignored by the chroniclers of them. Times always change, both socially, economically, and politically. People too often do not recognize that simple fact because they have been trained to watch only the minor change of officials. "The good old days" have gone where the woodbine twineth, and the cuckoo sings merrily in the glade. New ways have arisen to take their place.

The modern inhabitants of Punxsutawney, with one or two exceptions—and they are among the older people—cannot conceive just how much the social life of these people living in Punxsutawney was centered in the home and about the economic situation of the town. Commercial amusements were not known—remember that evermore.

Another mode of amusement that is highly frowned upon by the moderns—at least by some—was the universal use of whiskey.

#### Whiskey

...was the indispensable emblem of hospitality and accompaniment of labor in every pursuit; the stimulant in joy, the solace in grief. It was kept on the counter of every store, in the corner cupboard of every well-to-do family.... The minister took it before going to church and after he came back. At home and abroad, at coming and going, at marryings and buryings, at house raisings and log rollings, at harvestings and huskings... it was the omnipresent beverage of old and young, men and women; and he was a churl who stinted it. To deny it altogether required more grace or niggardliness than most men could command, at least for daily use.

The Hoovers, *et al.*, were settlers in a new land, and they did not have the time to spend on amuse-

ments alone when they had to mark out, and begin to work, their farms. They had a living to make. Still, these men, women, and children wanted to enjoy themselves. Their solution to the problem was a very happy one. They combined their farm work and their social life.

In the making of clothing, they held their "frol-ics," or "bees," as they were called. The people gathered to pull the flax, prepare it for the working, and to shrink it for use. Barns, homes, and churches were raised, and parties were held in conjunction with these raisings. The same went for stump pullings, manure haulings, log cuttings, brush burnings, apple parings, and rail maulings. Conversation, and just pure pleasure at seeing neighbors, made up the social aspects here.

At the rarer intervals, when a party for the sake of a party could be held, the settlers danced, sang, played singing games, and told tales. It is no accident that one of the greatest pleasures of this period was to go visiting, or to receive visitors, in the home. Apples were roasted at the fireplace, tales were told, and news was spread of the surrounding countryside. Any visitor from outside the vicinity, such as a mail carrier or peddler, was a social character of the highest order, for he carried news that was comparatively fresh, and points of view which were not homegrown.

The intellectual and religious aspects of the people's social life were not ignored in the slightest. At the first chance these people set up schools and churches. The history of Punxsutawney is not delved into very deeply before that fact is determined. The beginnings of both might have been crude and halting, but they were there none the less. These seeds prospered, grew, and the institutions of today are the outcome.

It was not by chance that the first churches in Punxsutawney were Protestant. This was in line with the general trends of the entire country, as had happened in the past in other sections, and in the settlement of other parts of Western Pennsylvania. Most of the immigrants to the United States from Europe came from those countries which were either predominantly Protestant or were persecuting the Protestants and driving them forth to seek havens of safety elsewhere.

According to George W. Porter the Methodists were the "second pioneer" church in Punxsutawney, but it appears that they were really the first, from the records available. Perhaps some other records were available when Mr. Porter wrote his *Autobiography*, but the evidence now indicates that he was somewhat mistaken in his statement. Anyway, the Methodists arose early in Punxsutawney. This faith depended largely on lay leaders, and had worked out an admirable circuit system which enabled the erection of churches that ordinarily would be considered impossible by other churches which operated on the theory that regular clergy were necessary for any real continuance of the faith. Regardless of whether the first church was Methodist or not, Jacob Hoover helped to organize an M. E. Society about 1821. Hoover and the other beginners were aided by the Rev. Elijah Coleman. It is not hard to determine that the church members did not have any easy time of it, because they paid their minister with pine boards in 1825 and 1826. Barter was not resorted to unless money was very scarce. Evidently the church prospered some, for



they were able to build a frame church in 1834 at an approximate cost of \$1350. For the most part, the church was supplied by a circuit-riding minister who toured a route of six weeks' duration.

In this day and age, the standards of conduct, dress, and general behavior of the church-goers seem to be very strict, in those times. However, the edicts against Sunday sports, profanity, unnecessary or "worldly clothes" were the rule rather than the exception. Many were the poor unfortunates called up before the boards of Methodists, Presbyterian, and Baptist churches for "fiddlin'," drunkenness, or dancing. These people went at their religion lock, stock, and barrel in some ways. There had been a religious revival on the American frontier about 1810-1820, and the carry-over could be felt for some years.

The Presbyterians and Baptists were also among the leaders in the religious field in Punxsutawney. The Baptists, like the Methodists, had developed a system of lay leadership which proved itself to be admirably suited to the frontier. This probably served to further the church in this area, although the Punxsutawney Baptist Church had the benefit of a regular preacher when it was started in 1840. Evidently a Presbyterian congregation had been formed in Punxsutawney around 1826, but had perished for some reason. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church—another section of the Presbyterian Church—was formed in the 1830's. Their standards of conduct conformed to those mentioned before. There was no one more fierce to face than a Presbyterian moderator who was worked up about some breach of the church code. Some idea can be gained of their religion when one hears the folk simile, "as long as the Presbyterian catechism."

The Protestant churches of the 1830's and 1840's were pushing along a movement that was destined to have dire effects upon the generation following. That was the temperance movement. Distillation of "the remarkably effective whiskey" was not a difficult skill to master, and most of the frontiersmen were avid followers of this branch of learning. As theories in the nineteenth century were either white or black, and you went whole hog or you didn't go at all, the temperance movement soon came to mean total abstinence. A quarrel was begun that still has not been settled.

With the first settlers of Punxsutawney, education came as high on the list as did religion. When the settling wave of 1822-1823 had arrived in town, the first school was built. According to J. B. "Uncle Joe" Morris, who gave an interview recorded in the *Spirit* of September 20, 1907, this school was a small one, about twelve by fourteen feet. It was made of round logs and mud, covered with clapboards. There was one small window with greased paper instead of glass to admit the light. The seats were rough slabs, with the flat side up and woden pins for legs. Slanting wooden pins were driven into the walls, and wide boards were placed on them for writing desks for the older pupils. The school term lasted only a few months of the summer, but was later pushed into the early months of the winter. A small stove produced the heat in the winter. Characteristically, this place was also used as a church, and for all other public meetings.

In 1836, a brick church was built to replace the school which had been torn down. School and

community meetings were also held there as they had been in the past. This edifice stood on the north-central part of the park. About 1840 a two story frame school was built on the southern part of the park. About 1856, this building was moved to the present site of the Jefferson Street High School, and in 1867, was torn down to make way for a four room brick building. This latter building served all the Punxsutawney school pupils, but in later years was used solely for a high school.

While W. J. McKnight places the first school in a privately owned house, he adds the information that tuition for the large pupils in this first school was fifty dollars per year, while it was only twelve dollars for the younger students. McKnight says the first school was not built until 1827, and his source was probably one Ament Blose. Kate Scott puts herself in the unenviable position of contradicting herself on the question. On page 518 of her *History of Jefferson County* she states that the first school in Punxsutawney was built circa 1822, and on page 97 she says that the first school in the town was opened about 1823 in a home owned by John Henderson. The historian, even of a borough, must appear as Diogenes with the lantern.

The subject matter consisted of the old reliables: reading, writing, and arithmetic. The teachers were not the highly trained individuals who are demanded today but were men and women who had had some education. In too many cases the teacher was actually only a few grades ahead of his pupil. Perhaps the three most famous texts of the period were the *Western Calculator*, the *United States Speller*, and the *English Reader*.

All these school activities culminated in the introduction of the common school system about 1835, during the administration of Governor Ritner. A school district was set up in Young Township, and state money was sent to the local units throughout the state. Young Township, of which Punxsutawney was a part, received \$94.52. In this way, a trend that has continued down to 1949 was begun.

The activities recited in the foregoing pages resulted in a changing political scene in Punxsutawney. The rise in population, the state aid to roads, the erection of saw and grist mills, the beginnings of religion and education all showed the increased integration that had taken place in the United States and the State of Pennsylvania. The country was expanding; between the years 1804 and 1850, when Punxsutawney was incorporated, the United States had stretched far west, and all the counties of Pennsylvania had resolved themselves into their final form.

Of course the interest of the people of Punxsutawney is concentrated on the scene at hand, so a review of home affairs is in order. The County of Jefferson had been formed March 26, 1804, from Lycoming County, and was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States. From 1806 until 1830 the new county was attached to Indiana County for political purposes. Signs of breaking away into a separate entity were shown in 1824 when three commissioners for Jefferson County, to be separate from those of the neighboring county, were elected by the people.

Brookville was made the county seat of Jefferson County on September 1, 1829. In this respect, Punxsutawney was apparently not even considered; if it



was, no mention has come down. Then in 1830, as has been mentioned, the separation of the two counties was completed, and the pair went their own ways. Young Township, in which Punxsutawney was located before becoming a borough, was set up in 1826, prior to the cutting adrift of Jefferson County. Therefore, after 1826 there were township elections in Young Township, and after 1830 there were Jefferson County elections that consumed much local interest after the manner of such elections.

It is interesting to note that Jefferson County in its youth was definitely western in its political outlook. Jackson won the field against Wirt in 1832, and in 1836 Martin Van Buren defeated William Henry Harrison. The same man won again in 1840. In 1844, the "dark horse" Polk won the county against Clay. This is especially interesting in view of the fact that Jefferson County has been for so many years the center of a rock-ribbed conservatism, that refuses to be shaken. How many people that dote on ancestors would be happy to find that their progenitors were guilty of committing the heinous crime of helping to sweep Democrats into office?

In summary, the town of Punxsutawney was set up long after the frontier had been pushed into the Ohio country, and the "noble" red men had gone the way of all flesh. The growth of Punxsutawney can be attributed more to consolidation behind the lines than smashing down the barriers of the western frontier. In short, the settling of Punxsutawney can be very easily compared to the "mopping up" operations that are carried on after the infantry of the army has crashed through to sweep the enemy before them.

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY GROWING UP, 1850-1883

The next period in the history of Punxsutawney is not witness to any great changes in the life of the town, but does portend a coming shift. In the period 1850 to 1883, the agricultural economy of Punxsutawney was stabilized. The farms were completely cleared, and life on these farms became more regular, with the various aspects of the frontier disappearing.

The view of Punxsutawney that is most worthy of note is that it is now standing on its own two feet, and is going its separate political way. For several years, probably, there had been some movement on foot to have Punxsutawney made into a borough. In a way, this movement is comparable to the idea of today that Punxsutawney should be a third class city, except that the legislature did make the town into a borough in an act approved in February of 1850, while the idea that Punxsutawney should be a city has never borne fruit. Be that as it may, Brookville, the original borough of the county, was now joined by our town. Jefferson County was now the proud father of two boroughs.

Hereafter, in Punxsutawney, there were elections for town officials which aroused great interest among the people, just as they do today. No longer were the inhabitants so greatly interested in the conduct of Young Township—they had their home affairs to worry about. Schools for the town were no longer administered under the county and township, but were the Punxsutawney schools. The borough burgess became the head political figure, in theory if not always in fact.

During the 1850's the anti-slavery issue was one of the manifestations of the poor relations between the North and South. Probably Punxsutawney, in common with most of Pennsylvania, was anti-slavery in feeling. There was at least one small underground railway station operating in and around Punxsutawney. Agitated by the often irresponsible abolitionists of the North, and urged on by bull-headed leaders in the South, the country was rapidly drifting on to the conflict which led to an impoverished southern United States, and a reconstruction which has embittered and impeded political progress from that time until this. This war—the War of the Rebellion, or the War Between the States, or the Civil War, according to your taste—affected Punxsutawney in several ways.

During the Civil War, the growing power of the federal government became apparent to the people of Punxsutawney. It came in a form of the draft, to supply needed manpower for the nion armies. In 1862, Lincoln made a call for more men, and William Campbell was named to enroll the militia in town. As Jefferson County had already sent more men than its quota called for, the town managed to escape this draft. In the draft of July, 1863, Punxsutawney furnished eleven men, a far cry from World War II, but a start in a national direction.

Men from the town and the county fought, suffered, and died in this war which finally wound its way to a climax and victory for the Union forces. The post-war period came in, bringing with it mixed opinion on what to do with the South, for Grant and his Radical Republican backers did not appear to have had any great majority in the election of 1868. In Young Township, Grant actually lost. The vicious trampling of the South was not condoned here to any great extent, which is a far greater compliment than any far-flung praises the people could achieve.

Turning from the greatest political event of this second period in the history of Punxsutawney, the economic outlook of the town comes to the fore. As has been said before, there was no great change when the borough was formed in 1850. Economic life, like every other kind, went on just the same. The constant effort of the people was what really accomplished the progress, insofar as any economic progress was noted.

Farmers had their farms well under control, and were working on the non-essential phases of agricultural life. Pure breed horses and cattle were raised and sold around the countryside. Evidences of this are very plain in the *Atlas of Jefferson County*, published in the 1870's. The illustrations of these farms as shown in the *Atlas*, demonstrate the change from the small cabin and stump fields of the former period.

Within Punxsutawney proper most of the establishments were dedicated to serving the demands of the agricultural population living in and around the town. Harness makers, saddlers, and others filled the demands for the leather goods needed by farmers and townspeople. Wagon makers made by hand the vehicles used for hauling. A larger grist mill was built by Jacob Hoover. This one had three stories, and measured forty feet by forty feet. One set of burs was for flour, one was for grinding buckwheat, rye, and corn, while the third was used for chopping feed for the livestock. All of these were on the first floor. On the second floor Hoover installed a wool carding machine, and on the third floor the wool was stored. This was a great boon to all the people,



both townspeople and country folk, for the carding of wool had been done by hand, and was indeed an arduous task.

After Hoover's death in 1854, his firm bought a steam engine to replace the older system of water power. This steam engine and its three boilers were purchased from the Pennsylvania Railroad. Progress was coming to Punxsutawney for this contraption was the first of its kind in town. Time marches on.

Before the introduction of the steam engine, which had been well developed in England during the eighteenth century, the foundry was introduced into the economic life of Punxsutawney. It seems almost natural by this time to find that our old friend Jacob Hoover was responsible for this. The foundry, which had begun operations in 1840, but was most important during this period, made plows, threshing machines, windmills, and repaired broken implements. It can easily be seen that all of these were used on the farm. This mill was also operated by water power, forcing the embarrassing necessity of treading the wheel when water ran out in the middle of a cast. Another foundry, or "agricultural works" as they were called by some, was opened by George W. Porter in Clayville, sometime after the Panic of 1873. This foundry appears always to have been operated by steam, and never by the often undependable water power.

All this time stores and other retail facilities in Punxsutawney were being worked and improved. They advertised their wares in the newspaper, and catered to the latest designs as do the stores of this day and age. It was in this period, in 1868 to be exact, that the first barber shop in town was opened by Daniel Roy. In the words of the *Punxsutawney Plaindealer*, it fulfilled "a want that has long been felt..." The hotels urged people to patronize their restaurants and barrooms. Service to the public became an occupation which took several different forms, e. g., the banks. The Mahoning Bank was formed in 1870, and the First National Bank opened in 1883.

While this public service and attendance to agriculture was going on, the lumbering industry continued to engage quite a few people. In 1869, 369 rafts of lumber were floated during one freshet, with a spring total of 421 being sent down the Mahoning Creek. The day of the "shanty boy" was not over as yet, although that day was not far off. In the meantime, weather was very important to these lumbering people. In 1868, there was quite a bit of worry because the lack of rain had left much lumber still in the creek unable to be floated.

Aside from the various institutions noted above, Clayville possessed two brickyards. Here the bricks were burned and dried by natural gas. One of the plants was set up in 1873, and the other in 1875. Each produced 600,000 bricks per year, and employed ten men each. A similar industry was operating on the south side of Punxsutawney.

The wonderful boom begun by the Civil War came to a screeching halt in the Panic of 1873, which was certainly felt by the economy of Punxsutawney. George W. Porter tells us that his business was carried on chiefly by barter, and implies that such methods were common in many business transactions during this depression which lasted to about 1879. By this time, Punxsutawney was not the complete little

farming community that it had once been. Business failures as far off and remote as the closing of Jay Cooke and Company in New York, Philadelphia and Washington were enough to set off a chain reaction that severely disturbed some phases of economic life as far back in the hills as Punxsutawney.

Transportation and communication with the outside world had improved considerably by this time. Inquiries were made, in the *Plaindealer*, as to whether the situation could not be still further improved, for mail came from Indiana and Brookville thrice weekly, and those both on the same day, leaving Punxsutawney in the dark for the rest of the week. The telegraph had proved itself to be useful during the Civil War. Roads were still dirt, but were widened and improved. The network of roads had also been extended within and without the county. Stage lines had been set up, the Eagle Hotel serving as the office for all the stage lines entering and leaving Punxsutawney. In 1868, there was a stage running between that booming metropolis of Luthersburg and Punxsutawney three times a week. Horseback and "shank's mare" were still common methods of transporting oneself at this time.

All this discussion of the economic life of Punxsutawney has been predicated on the tacit assumption that a growth of population had been taking place. Many of the improvements and extensions of consumer service would never have taken place, had there been no growth in the number of people within the town and vicinity.

A letter from East Liberty is quoted in the *Plaindealer* in 1868 as saying that Punxsutawney was indeed a very pleasant place which surely had a population of 1,000. The population was not quite that high, for J. R. Rees, the borough assessor, made a census in which he determined that the town had 264 males, and 271 females. Of this total population of 535, there was one colored person. Even so, this was a jump from the 415 of 1860, and somewhat behind the 553 of 1870. In 1880, 674 people could be found in the borough. Clayville is not included in these figures, but had a population of 188 in 1870. Evidently that town was feeling its oats in 1864, for it incorporated.

The social picture of Punxsutawney undergoes a change much in the same fashion as the economic and political sides of the city. During the previous period, the people were mostly concerned with making a living, and were not concerned so much about the spending of free time, for they had none. This begins to change a little now. The life of the town was more settled, and amusement began to demand a part of the time of all. It is not at all surprising to find more and more notices in the newspaper that were of a purely social nature.

Many of the criteria of conduct were still determined by the churches of town who had relaxed but a little their stricter ideas. Girls were guarded against moral sins of almost every conceivable description, while the young men were being warned constantly against treading the "primrose path." The temperance movement was plunging on under a full head of steam, and was gaining converts every day. The only group that seemed to resist successfully the advance of the temperance people were the lumbermen who still liked to tipple now and then. Late in this period, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, es-



entially a Protestant women's organization, began to preach the gospel of abstinence throughout Punxsutawney.

This was also a period of physical growth for the churches. New buildings were erected to replace the older ones, now too small. In 1853, the Methodists began to build a brick church to take the place of their old frame one. The other churches were taking the same course of action.

Along with this improved physical outlook, the church membership continued to grow both in numbers and diversity. New sects had gained their adherents, and new churches arose. The Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church was established in 1853, and the first Roman Catholic mass was said in Clayville in 1870, in the home of W. E. Gillespie. After this time, Catholic services were held in various parts of West End until the Roman Catholics succeeded in building their church.

A peculiar aspect of religion of this period was the camp meeting, where real "hell fire and brimstone" religion was preached. This mode of worship had arisen on the frontier where the idea of salvation for the many was bound to find great favor. It had carried over into this period, 1850 to 1883, and still had many eager supporters. Others were often quick to criticize some of the shortcomings of this type of worship, but they did not realize that the camp meeting, even though some people were extremely willing to take advantage of the occasions to indulge in acts that bordered on the criminal, were contributing to that wonderful institution of which the world has seen far too little; democratic religion. It is no accident that the most successful frontier and semi-frontier religions were the most democratic in character. Covode seems to have been a favorite for holding the meetings, for several items can be found in the *Plaindealer* that give advance notice of, or report on, some of these conventions.

The church, far more than it is today, was a moving factor in the lives of the people, and any violation of ecclesiastical codes was condemned to the utmost degree. One such case was that of J. J. Shorthill, a Baptist minister. This illustration does not mean that the Baptists were more susceptible to misconduct than the others; if anything they were among the more strait-laced sects. They were just unfortunate enough to be the possessor of the rotten apple in the barrel, while the other churches had managed to escape misfortune on this trip around. Doubtless all the people in town were highly indignant. Anyway, Shorthill, after a stay of twelve years at his local post, decided to resign for "reasons of health." He then left the town, bearing with him the prayers of the congregation as well as the wife of one of the brethren. The tone of moral indignation in the *Plaindealer*, which doubtlessly spoke for the entire town, is something that is not often seen in this day of the Year of Our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and forty-nine. Over a year later, Shorthill returned to Punxsutawney, and the impression given in the newspaper is that he was driven from the city by the attitude of the outraged population. When someone committed a crime against the moral codes such as this, he was, in the vernacular, "a dead duck."

Education now occupied more time, space, and efforts of the people of Punxsutawney. From the rude beginnings of education in the small building attend-

ed by "Uncle Joe" Morris, the frame building had been moved to the site of the Jefferson Street High School, and had been razed to make room for the four room brick building which was raised in 1867 to serve all the pupils of the town. In 1856, there were eight graded schools in Jefferson County, and Punxsutawney had two of them. Brookville and Reynoldsville were the leaders in this respect. All of this probably was the result of the state-wide educational revival. It was at this time that the Department of Education was taken from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and was placed under a Superintendent of Public Schools. "Select summer schools" operated in the summer time to provide for the slack not taken up during the regular term. These were voluntary, private affairs, and were taught at various times by a Professor Pullen, one Reverend King, Professor McPherran, and Professor S. H. Barnett.

Teaching by apprenticeship was one of the common methods used, especially in teaching the trades and the professions. A prominent saddler of Punxsutawney, Jacob Zeitler, learned his trade in Brady's Bend before moving here. In Caldwell's *Atlas*, two law students are listed. Although their tutors are not listed, they were probably among the nine attorneys also listed. Other trades such as wagon and buggy making, carpentry, and masonry were also learned by the apprenticeship methods.

At this time the professions were not too well developed, except for lawyers and judges. Dentistry was still in its infancy, and some of the medical theories in practice bordered on the amazing. George Porter, whose autobiography is a gold mine to those seeking data on the past, tells some of the Spartan cures during his childhood and youth in Punxsutawney. Castor oil was the standard dose, while vermifuge did for the worms. When some of the diseases assumed epidemic proportions, assafoetida was required. The ever present itch was cured by making a thin rye batter and spreading it over the troubled parts of the body.

In Porter's "young days," there were four leading diseases that were extremely troublesome and dangerous to the population at large. They were typhoid fever, smallpox, scarlet fever, and diphtheria. Besides the discomfort of having the disease, the patient was cursed by having all the doors and windows closed, and having all the cracks stuffed to prevent the fresh air from entering. Remedies taken internally included a mixture of sulfur, cream of tartar, and molasses, plus a collection of herbs from the woods and garden which were boiled into a syrup, bottled and kept for future use. Perhaps the cure was worse than the disease.

Recreation was now coming out of the home somewhat. Throughout this period, evidences are found of this. Again, we turn to Mr. Porter and his *Autobiography*. The circus was one form of amusement. It was also in this period that the various clubs and associations began to appear in Punxsutawney. One of the earliest forms was the literary society. This type of club was usually dedicated to the intellectual side of recreation, with readings, reviews, perhaps some elementary dramatics, and a rather large amount of social intercourse. Between 1868 and 1870, there appear four of these societies active in literary circles of Punxsutawney. They were the Mahoning Literary Society, the Keystone Literary Society, the Washington Literary Society, and the Pculnarysvuitlalweney (printer's mistake?) Literary Society.



This era was also that of the brass band and the childhood of baseball. The Punxsutawney Silver Cornet Band was formed, and was available for any or all occasions. The baseball news occupied a lot of space in the "local items" column of the *Plaindealer*. This baseball was different from the modern game. The catcher was placed far behind the batter, and attempted to catch the ball on first bounce. The pitcher threw the ball underhanded, with the scores often running into the fifties and sixties, according to Mr. Porter. Would that the good Lord had pity on the outfielders! This was the days when Reynoldsville played Punxsutawney, Luthersburg, and Brookville. Intense was the rivalry between Indiana and Punxsutawney.

The other lads, especially the younger ones, played other ball games. "Long town ball" and "round town ball" were played with great relish by the younger fry. Probably cat ball, over ball, and paddle ball were also played. Fishing with a baited hook, a gig, or a seine was considered sport that equalled baseball and other ball games. A nice trout, sucker, bass, chub, sunfish, or pike is much tastier than any baseball hit to some people.

The older men had their innings as well as the younger ones. They formed their lodges, and succeeded in enjoying themselves just as much as the ballplayers. Laurel Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted in July, 1869, while John W. Jenks Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted in March of 1875. The Grand Army of the Republic was represented by Captain E. H. Little Post, Number 237, formed in 1882 with seventeen charter members.

Last but not least comes the appearance of the town in a physical sense. Along with the brick yards in Clayville and on the south side came the brick home and brick street. Most of the homes were frame, however. The illustrations in Caldwell's *Atlas*, if authentic, showed many interesting sides of life in Punxsutawney. The board walks and the dirt streets are well represented. The buggies, with their prancing teams, are also very conspicuous as they pass by the St. Elmo Hotel. This three storied structure, with its swinging signboard composed of an eye between the "St." and the "Elmo," housed an interesting place. That was the saloon with its sign, "Fried potatoes and beefsteak." By the by, the heads on the large mugs of beer were something for a bartender to be proud of. It was a man's world, and they wore their hats as they planted their elbows on the polished bar, and hooked their heels on the strategically placed brass rail.

The post Civil War period of Punxsutawney's history, while most certainly not the most spectacular, was nevertheless important to the continued growth of the town. A breathing spell of consolidation and integration was needed, and this period supplied it. The same might be said for the state and the nation. In Pennsylvania, all of the counties had been formed, and were being filled and exploited to a very promising degree. The great West was being opened and peopled. Indeed, conditions, economic, social, and political, were looking up for Punxsutawney, the state, and the nation.

There was a movement afoot in the eastern United States that promised fair for Punxsutawney. That was

the enormous industrial expansion of the Northeastern Quadrant. Before the Civil War, large sections of the Northeast Quadrant had been mainly agricultural, but this was in the process of change. It might be said that the Middle West was stirring in its agricultural crib, and letting the East take care of the industry.

The presence of coal had long been known in Jefferson County, but there was no railroad to haul it forth to the industries that would need it for vital production. The coal, which is said to have been first found in Pinecreek Township, was just lying there begging for the railroad that was to enter Punxsutawney in 1883, and enable the town to grow rapidly along economic lines. This was in line with the national trend. If a look were taken at any map of the railroads of the United States prior to the Civil War, it would not be difficult to see that Western Pennsylvania, and Jefferson County, were off the beaten railroad path.

Punxsutawney really helped to reap the benefits of this completion of the railroad system between 1850 and 1900 in the United States. The Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad was the first to enter Punxsutawney. It made its appearance in 1883, with regular service being instituted in September of that year. It was extended at various times over the next sixteen years, with terminals located at Pittsburgh in 1899, and at Allegheny in the same year. The Indiana branch of the rails was laid in 1903. The Pennsylvania and Northwestern Railroad followed the "B., R. and P." into town in 1886, with completion being achieved in December, 1887.

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY NEARING MATURITY

For those living in Punxsutawney at the present time, it is hard to realize the immense difference that the railroads made in the town. Godcharles, in his *History of Pennsylvania*, lists among the chief industries of Punxsutawney railroad repair shops and coal. Also it must be remembered that the railroad changed the area surrounding Punxsutawney, which had a direct effect on the town itself. As soon as the coal could be taken out, the towns of Helvetia, Sykesville, Anita, Walston, and others sat up and took notice. That made it possible for Punxsutawney to arise as a commercial shopping center for many miners and their families who had not been in the area in previous years. In other words, everybody in town benefited from the change. There was now more opportunity, economically speaking, than there had been before. Many trades were now opened, and available for those interested in working at them. The farm was not the sole economic factor in the life or death of the town after the first locomotive chugged its way into the depot.

The miner, the railroader, and the coke-oven worker all made their influence felt upon the town. Immigration into the United States and into Punxsutawney created changes in economic and social relationships. The immigrants who came into Punxsutawney went mostly into the mines and the coke ovens. They often went to work for lower wages, and under worse working conditions than the workers native to the area. At one and the same time, the immigrants furthered and retarded unionization: the workers in the area felt that the union was nec-



essary to protect them, and the immigrants constituted a labor supply that proved to be abundant, thus making it easier for employers to resist the demands of their workers. The Berwind-White Company, operator of many of the mines in the vicinity, got many people just off the boat in New York City, and sent them to Punxsutawney. Perhaps there are some who can still remember the dray loads of immigrants that were hauled from the Pennsylvania station to the mining towns, unable to speak English, but able to threaten the native miners with lower wages.

By no means did the railroads destroy completely the older agricultural complexion of Punxsutawney. The big difference was now that the farming industry lay outside of the town, and fewer of the people within the limits were engaged in working the soil. The area of Punxsutawney and vicinity, in 1929, was classified in the Allegheny Plateau General Farming Area, and the patronage of these farmers continued to be important to the business men of Punxsutawney. The farmers with their horses must have been important, for in 1916 there were four blacksmiths and ten livery stables in Punxsutawney. As late as 1920, there were several hitching posts, of some size, distributed throughout the borough. Of course, the demand for blacksmiths, livery stables, and hitching posts was diminishing with each year.

Before coming to the more important industries it would be worthwhile to mention two which have gone to the place of last winter's snow. One is cigar making. In the *Spirit* of November 27, 1889, the item is found telling us that H. H. Strycher, the cigar manufacturer, was doing a good business. The other industry which is now defunct is lumbering. An ominous note is sounded in the *Spirit* of November 24, 1886. There was a flood in the Mahoning Creek which permitted the lumber of be rafted, but the amount was such that it would not glut the market, for the white pine was getting very scarce, and the hemlock was now usually sawed and shipped to the market by rail. The railroad and exploitation by man had helped to kill an industry which was extremely colorful. The day of the rough and ready "shanty boy" was over.

Other industries replaced these two. For instance, a query in the newspaper of 1886 carried the question as to why Punxsutawney did not possess any electricity. This poor situation was remedied within the next four years, as the electric light plant was finished and began operations. Incidentally, this new light made the older gas lights look pale indeed. The use of electricity has grown to the point at the present time that the business employs a goodly number of men and women in this area.

Several other types of economic enterprise settled in the town, providing livelihoods for many men and women. One of these was the United Textile Corporation of Allentown which built a throwing mill in 1909. Others were glass industries. The first of these glass works was built on the south side. The primary product of this concern was to be prescription ware for druggists. It was estimated, in 1890, that about sixty-five men and boys would be employed with the average wage being \$1.50 per day. The workers were to be paid semi-monthly. In later references to this works, various difficulties were enumerated as being met in the process of the plant's

construction, and the plant was not operating as soon as expected. However, it did manage to get under way.

In 1906, the Eldred Glass Company had been established in Eldred, Pennsylvania, but had suffered the misfortune of being burned out. The company had planned to make an extension in Punxsutawney, but decided, after the fire, to bring the entire plant here. The Punxsutawney plant was finished in 1908, and employed about 140. This one, together with the Tibby-Brawner Bottle Company, and the Punxsutawney Iron Furnace, which was lighted in 1897, and employed about 150 men, constituted an economic addition to the town that was sincerely welcomed by the inhabitants. The Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron Company, with its mines and coke ovens, was well thought of, as were the gas company, the electric company, and the water company. The total picture of Punxsutawney and its environs, with its farms, mines, beehive coke ovens, and glass works was certainly a satisfying sight.

This industrial period, which ran from 1883 to 1929, was beset by several depressions which had rather severe repercussions in Punxsutawney. Now that the town was highly industrialized, and therefore dependent on many outside influences over which the city had no control, these depressions were disrupting. There were four of them, spaced so as to give the town one continual headache in trying to keep ahead of the current economic trends.

The first of these great depressions come in 1893, and arose principally from the people's distrust of the government greenbacks and treasury notes. Gold withdrawals were the rule of the day, and the result was panic. The primary outcome of this panic here in Punxsutawney was trouble in the coal mines. Probably labor conditions were not worse anywhere in the United States than in the Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, and Illinois coal mines. It is doubtful if conditions here were any exception to this rule: wages were low, irregular employment was rife, and workmen's compensation was practically unknown; and the "company town" system was in operation. The great coal strike of 1894 was one result of the panic, and the state militia had to be called into this district before the fracas was over.

About fourteen years later, the Panic of 1907 hit the town, causing a business depression which was strongly felt by the retail and industrial concerns of town. A hopeful note was sounded in the *Spirit* of February 13, 1908, when it was reported that the mines were getting back to work, and that men were being called back to the railroads and the coke ovens. Like the Panic of 1893, this depression of 1907 was national in scale. Industry as a general rule was over-capitalized, with United States Steel right at the head of the list. Currency was much too inelastic, and Teddy Roosevelt was throwing the anti-trust laws at the big businesses. The net result of this problem was much trouble, economically speaking, for Punxsutawney.

After World War I, the next financial depression arose. Signs were plentiful in 1919 that the war boom was over. The European countries were getting back on their feet along agricultural lines. The United States refused to supply any more loans to European states, the outcome of which was an inability to buy by the Continental countries. A high tariff added to



the foreign trade ills, to which a "buyers' strike" in this country was added. Therefore in 1921 there was a general slackening in almost every line of business. The reaction on the railroads and in the coal mines around Punxsutawney was not long in coming.

In June of 1922, a decision was reached by the United States Railroad Labor Board which reduced the wages of the railroad shop crafts. The decision was not cordially received by these men, and their answer can be read in one of the *Spirit* headlines, "Strike Ballots Sent to Million Rail Workers." This strike began on July 1, 1922, when forty men walked out at Rikers and 600 struck at DuBois. The railroads were put under war regulations toward the last of July, but the workers did not return until September of 1922.

The coal miners' strike followed just about the same pattern as that of the rail workers. The miners' wages were to be slashed, and the patient did not want to swallow the pill. The strike began on the traditional date of April 1, 1922, and lasted until August, 1922. This strike, which was state- and nationwide, was marked by violence. The newly-formed Troop F was called to duty, and was sent to Cokesburg and Clarkesville, both coal-mining towns in the southwestern part of the state. Their tour of duty was about six weeks in length, but, fortunately, was not marked by any disorders.

The miners and the railroaders were not the only ones to suffer from this strike. The Punxsutawney Iron Company shut down for over a year. There was talk about cutting the wages of the glass workers, with Tibby-Brawner running on a half shift for some time. It was at this time that the machines overtook the glass industry and began to force the skilled workmen out of the trade. Their craft never regained its former prominence. As 1922 began, the Punxsutawney Throwing Company (the silk mill), which had come from Allentown in the first ten years of the twentieth century, began to show signs of coming out of the doldrums.

While these strikes and depressions were going on, the unions began to grow in strength. The United Mine Workers, led at first by John Mitchell, and after 1920, by John L. Lewis, started their fight to raise the working standards of the coal miners. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is an example of the railroad brotherhoods that were beginning to show their strength. The country was beginning to witness the upsurge of a powerful labor group, and the evidence was here in Punxsutawney: the coal strike and the rail strike. These unions had come a long way since the Knights of Labor had tried to fight the lock-outs at Walston and Horatio in 1889.

When the railroads entered Jefferson County, and brought to Punxsutawney a richer economic life, they also brought the makings of a severe social maladjustment. That was in the form of immigration. The immigration of people from the southern and southeastern sections of Europe produced a social strain that was felt in Punxsutawney. Because of previous living and social conditions, these people often had standards that were materially lower and different than those northern and northwestern Europeans that had formed the broad base of immigration in prior years. Two different cultures were clashing.

This clash is often evidenced in the *Spirit*. Those people who did not possess citizenship, or were not able to speak English very well, if at all, were labelled with the tag, "foreigner." For instance, a report of a mine accident at Skyesville in 1911, in which twenty-three men were killed, listed the victims as "Slavish," "American," or "Italian." Since that time, this group has been accepted as, and called, Americans. There was good reason for this friction if one looks at the national picture, and at the local scene.

In the first place, these people had long been trampled on in their native lands. Their living conditions were far lower there, and they could not be expected to adapt themselves as soon as they touched foot in the United States. Their intellectual life had not been as broad as had that of the northern Europeans; more than thirty-five percent of these more recent immigrants were illiterate as compared with the three percent of the older type of immigrant. Such inequalities, until remedied by better educational facilities and contact with the Anglican culture of the United States, could not help but result in some animosity and derision.

One other group should be mentioned while speaking about national groups which centered in and around Punxsutawney. That group was the Welsh who settled in West End, built up their own clannish little settlement, and then passed out of the picture, leaving a very few traces of their culture behind them. Their Welsh Baptist and Welsh Congregational Churches have gone, and those who can still speak the difficult language are very few. Only a few, relatively speaking, still remain in their old stronghold. They may have gone, but they are not forgotten. Had Hughy Parkhill not had the Welsh to feud with, half the flavor of the stories about Punxsutawney would be gone.

The whole social life of the twentieth century was changed by the invention and production of the "horseless carriage." With the automobile, social life became more and more a fluid thing; people were now able to move farther and faster. No longer was the buggy whip the hitching post for the reins. Along with the high-speed industrial gearing of the United States, social life began to assume all the ear marks of a whirling top—going round and round. With the coming of the telephone to Punxsutawney in 1891, and the radio in 1922, news from all over the world contributed to the idea that everything must be done at top speed. Although the "old timers" had worked long and hard, their social life had tended to be slow and leisurely. Those days were gone forever, with the advent of the auto and other much more rapid means of communication. "There's a dance at DuBois tonight, let's go," even if it did mean fixing twenty-three flats on a twenty mile trip.

The newspaper also did much to improve communication. The newspaper business in Punxsutawney had not been too good in the years prior to 1870. One paper was established in 1848, but suffered an early death, while the "*Plaindealer*," started in 1868, changed ownership several times. It was succeeded by the *Mahoning Argus* and the *Mahoning Valley Spirit*. The *Punxsutawney Valley News* appeared in 1885, and continued to the time of the Second World War. The *Punxsutawney Spirit*, descendant of the earlier *Mahoning Valley Spirit*, has long been the only daily paper in the city.



The theatre began to grow more and more in the public fancy. Back in the 'Nineties, "Ten Nights in a Barroom" was given in the Mahoning Street Opera House, and "The Best Vaudeville the Old Town Ever Saw" played at the Jefferson Theatre on 7 July, 1911. There were fine roller skating and juggling acts in this one. In 1922 happened one of the all-time catastrophes of the American stage. "Lillian Russell Died At 2:30 A. M." ran the headline in the *Spirit* on June 6, 1922. Not long after Lillian Russell left the scene, vaudeville suffered its lamented demise, for the talking picture came to town about 1930, and the day of the short stage skit was over. From that time to this, the commercial talking movie has been one of the leading forms of entertainment accepted by the people of Punxsutawney.

There were still some amateurs around the town who entertained themselves by forming an amateur dramatic society, but this was in 1891, quite some time before the sound picture managed to supplant active participation, and relegate the average man to the role of a mere spectator insofar as amusements were concerned.

Even in athletics the trend toward spectator sports began to come to the front. Punxsutawney High School football, which has assumed almost the character of community recreation, was started off in 1924, with the hiring of "Bill" Smith as head coach. High school basketball was going well about fifteen years before the football was started. There are many around town who remember Jordan, McCreight, Shirk, Glenn, and Curry.

Baseball, since the youthful days of George W. Porter, had changed considerably, and had not lost one iota of popularity. There were several teams operating in leagues, as well as the unnamed hundreds of youngsters who were playing the game. Great was the despair when some player injured himself while participating in a game. At one time, Punxsutawney entered a team in the Interstate League, and had some mighty fancy players "cavort" for its team.

Tennis and golf were sports that began to occupy some of the time and efforts of sports lovers. The Country Club was established in 1905, when the 110 acre farm of Ed A. Carmalt was obtained. It is unknown who the first tennis player was, but it is true that the game gained popularity in this period.

As far as the boys were concerned, never doubt their ability to enjoy themselves. They did one way, if they could not do it another. The old "bayou" and the "electric light dam" provided excellent ice skating for the boys in January of 1917 and later years. On Hallowe'en, in 1890, the lads managed to take care of their perennial target—the immortal outhouse, celebrated in song and story. They also took gates off hinges, and raised some excitement in general. Probably, the boys were not averse to putting in an hour or two over at the Auditorium Skating Rink, which opened in the fall of '06. Ringling Brothers Circus attracted the boys in 1890, and other circuses did their share in drawing boys from such dull and boring duties as schoolwork.

There was one other little sport in which the boys indulged that merits mention. The name of the boy is unknown, but he deserves to rest in the same hall of fame in which Hughy Parkhill now resides. In 1907, one of the games of the smaller boys was to

put the initials of some prominent man in town up to his friends, and to let them attempt to guess the owner. Six years before this, one such contest was proposed, with the initials, "B. Y.," and "B. U." as the goal. Despite all efforts, none of the boy's friends were able to guess the men. Finally, they broke down and admitted defeat. The bland answer was, "Brick Weiss and Bill Hewitt."

Aside from the more physical sports and mass entertainment, many clubs and lodges were formed in this period. From 1883 to 1929, might be termed the social organization period of Punxsutawney's history. The list is very impressive, ranging from the business organization to the religious to the purely social. A more or less accurate list would run somewhat as follows: Business and Professional Women's Club, the Forty and Eight, the Irving Club, Modern Woodmen of America, Alpha Chapter of Phi Zeta Chi, Rebekah Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Ladies of the Macabees, Eastern Star, Mahoning Lodge, Pythian Sisters, Adrian Hospital Auxiliary, Kiwanis, Daughters of the American Revolution, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Woman's Club, Dames of Malta, Catholic Daughters of America, Corn Cob Club, Punxsutawney Club, Groundhog Club, Shepherds of Bethlehem, and the Punxsutawney Hunting Club.

The religious side of Punxsutawney continued to increase despite the growing tendency to slip away from the older and stricter standards of deportment. The Eastern Europeans brought their Greek Catholic Church, and the Roman Catholics continually improved their church. Most of the support for the former church did not come from within Punxsutawney, but from the various mining towns around it. Saints Peter's and Paul's Greek Catholic Church was founded in 1893 in Punxsutawney, and was the first church of its rite in this section. The founding priest was Father John Sabo, who had an exceedingly hard row to hoe at first. The great coal strike of 1894 hampered his efforts to organize a congregation, but the job was finally accomplished. In 1894, four lots were purchased in Clayville, and a church and rectory were built at a cost of about \$6000. The church was finished and first used in 1895. In 1904, because of an enlarged congregation, plans for a new brick church were set under way. The new church was finished in 1905.

Those of the Roman Catholic rite also made great strides forward. Father Wienker bought lots on West Mahoning Street, where Saints Cosmas' and Damian's Church now stands, in 1885. His flock was increased tremendously by the influx of Italians and other Roman Catholic immigrants, who, like the members of the Greek Catholic Church, worked in the mines and in the coke ovens. This increased congregaton resulted in the building of a church somewhere around the turn of the century.

The appearance of new churches and sects within Punxsutawney showed that careful thought was still being applied to religion by some people. Diversity of thought spells intense interest given to spiritual matters. The Welsh Baptist Church, the Welsh Congregational Church, the Jewish Synagogue, the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the Church of God, the United Brethren, Christ Episcopal Church,



the Christian and Missionary Alliance, First Church of Christ Scientist, were all set up from 1883 to 1929.

Medical science made steps forward in this period, but some of the diseases were still with the people of Punxsutawney. Typhoid fever, diphtheria, and scarlet fever continued to take their toll in deaths,cripplings, and generally hampered lives. War had been declared on smallpox, and the war was won. Two hospitals were established in town in this period; the Adrian Hospital and the Punxsutawney Hospital were built not long after 1900. Better care was now available for the ill and the injured.

Along with the improved facilities for maintaining health standards, the educational picture of the town improved over the years. As the population grew, so did the numbers of pupils in the local schools. All over the United States there was a growing tendency for boys and girls to go on with their schooling instead of quitting to go to work. Economic life was getting more and more technical, and education helped prospective workers along these lines. As these pupils stayed in school, because greater knowledge was needed and because fewer jobs were available to them due to increased use of machinery and greater agitation for child labor laws, the junior high school came into existence with the setting up of the Weber School with its manual training and domestic science. The Jefferson Street High School was opened in 1907, but it was soon apparent that more room was needed for the expanding school population. The use of portable buildings was one answer, and this was put to use at a later date. Medical inspections were begun in 1911, which was a fine step. The whole educational effort was crowned in 1922 when the largest graduating class in the history of Punxsutawney High School included within its ranks the Buisset triplets, Louisa, Laura, and Lillian.

Political affairs were active throughout this period. The Spanish-American War marked the entrance of the United States into imperialism, and the first World War marked the emergence of the United States as the strongest nation in the world. Punxsutawney sent men to both wars; it saw some return alive and others returned by the railroads to be buried with full military honors.

The long temperance agitation reached its climax with the refusal of Judge Corbett, about 1916, to grant licenses and the passage of the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act. As it has been said that the two greatest crimes against the American man were prohibition and woman suffrage, so we might as well include the successful fight for the right of women to vote within this paragraph. The two breweries of Punxsutawney—the Punxsutawney Brewery Company and the Elk Run Brewery Company—were killed very, very dead by Prohibition. On the woman suffrage question, the men “ain’t talkin’.”

The borough government grew stronger, with more duties falling to its lot. Streets had to be paved to accommodate the automobile. The day when complaints were entered about the plank roads was on its way out. Desperately needed fire protection, after the disastrous fires of 1886, 1900, and 1903 was supplied by the Elk Run, Central, and Lindsey Volunteer Fire Companies. At one time, the B., R. and P. had its own fire company at the shops in Elk Run,

with a membership of about forty men. The State Police was formed in 1906, and added considerably to the police protection afforded the citizens of Punxsutawney. “Clate” Palmer was the mainstay of the local police force.

A National Guard unit was formed in 1922, and was designated as Troop F, 104th Cavalry, Pennsylvania National Guard. The old-style militia had certainly been modernized, and the need for semi-trained men by the United States Army was thus provided for.

Note should be taken of the growth of population, because so much that has gone before depended on this climb. According to the *Spirit*, Punxsutawney had a population of approximately 2,000, which included suburbs. This was in 1886. In 1890, the census of Punxsutawney alone listed over 4,100, a growth of over 100 percent. In 1900, the population had risen to over 6,700, and by 1910, after Clayville had been annexed, to 9,000. In twenty-four years the population of Punxsutawney had more than quadrupled—an eloquent testimonial to the economic upheaval that had taken place in this borough between 1883, when the Buffalo, Rochester, and Pittsburgh Railroad entered, and 1910, probably the time when Punxsutawney was nearing its industrial peak. Very interesting results can be obtained if a comparison is made of the rate of growth during the period 1883-1910 with the rate of growth since that time. Of course, some allowance has to be made for Clayville, which, although a separate unit for many years, really was part and parcel of Punxsutawney. However, the two together made remarkable gains that have not been equaled in the past thirty years.

There were growing signs that all was not well with Punxsutawney. The depression of 1921-22 was not the temporary recession that it appeared to be: it was the harbinger of a very dire time. All over the United States “soft spots” in the nation’s economy were appearing. There was too much speculation in the stock market, and “technological unemployment” was beginning to make its effect felt. Also, witness the liquidation of the Eldred Glass Company. The glass blowers no longer plied their trade, for the machine had supplanted them. Coal was now a terribly sick industry, not only in the United States, but in Europe as well. Hindsight is always better than foresight, and it is apparent now that Punxsutawney was in for a very rough and miserable time as 1929 approached.

## THE ADULTHOOD OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

The depression of 1929 was the outstanding feature of these last twenty years of Punxsutawney’s history. The avarice and the optimism of the American people had resulted in calamity. Punxsutawney was part of the American scene, and suffered with the rest of America.

The *Spirit* of late October, 1929, reflected nothing but disaster. Unemployment and the death of industries vital to Punxsutawney soon became the rule of the day. The Throwing Mill fell victim, and so did the Iron Company. The coal industry was dying on its feet, because the soft coal in this area decreased in quality and quantity. It was not so much the drop in the industry of the town that was bad; the terrible blows suffered by the surrounding mining towns really did the damage. The mines at Adrian, Anita,



Horatio, Walston, and the coke ovens at Eleanora, Horatio, Walston were done. The town was in desperate straits.

Many were the schemes advanced in the *Spirit* to offset this misery. One plan called for a contribution of one percent of the salary of every person earning over \$50 per month to aid the needy. Others called for semi-public works, anticipating the Works Project Administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was elected President in the midst of all this turmoil. More than 400 families in Punxsutawney in 1932 were on relief. Something had to be done.

The W.P.A. mentioned above helped somewhat to alleviate the condition by employing men in the building of roads, sidewalks, and "two-holers." Despite the efforts of the local, state, and national governments, the unemployment problem was a serious one which persisted until the advent of World War II, with its consequent boom.

This Second World War, which had been brewing for twenty years, was the second major event to affect Punxsutawney in this period. The Speer Carbon Company, which manufactured carbon electrodes for the United States Army Signal Corps and for export Lend-Lease, and the Federal Laboratories, which assembled parachute flares for the Army, were the first industries of any size to locate in Punxsutawney after the fatal '30's.

Since the end of the war, several smaller industries have also entered town. The population of the borough, which had sunk to low points of 9,266 in 1930 and 9,482 in 1940, showed signs of struggling back up the scale. Although Federal Laboratories left after the war's end, the Pramco Corporation, maker of women's blouses and employer of approximately 125 persons, came in to take its place. The Speer Carbon Company bought its plant from the War Assets Administration. The Jefferson Textile Company, together with some other small industrial concerns, also helped in the climb back up the economic ladder.

The coal industry was revitalized after the war by the coal stripping business—that is, taking the cover off the coal, as opposed to the deep mining methods. In general, this coal was of inferior grade in comparison with the deep mined coal, but it was suitable for many industrial purposes. However, even that business has suffered an eclipse at this time. The coal industry in this area, and in Pennsylvania in general, is passing slowly but surely into the background.

The retail establishments in town did not change much during this period, unless one includes the demise of Murray's and Eberhart's stores. Service to the public was still important, both for the townspeople and for the rural folk. Sales and service for automobiles was a new business field, taking the place of the group which had supplied the wagons and buggies of an earlier day. The grocery stores, men's furnishings, women's clothing and hats, and all the other uses for stores still remained, although some of them were reduced in scale.

The social aspects of Punxsutawney did not change very much, being merely extensions of the trend which had speeded up so much in the last period covered.

The high school provided spectator sports to all the town, with its football and basketball teams. Lights were installed at Harmon Field, and Friday night football games became a standard feature of Punxsutawney's social life.

People still went to the movies, but now they were looking at some Technicolored films, an advance over the straight black and white fare. The clubs and lodges, with the Eagles building a new home and the activation of a Moose lodge, seemed to be getting along all right. A choral society, a Grandmothers' Club, the Community Concert Association, and the Boy and Girl Scouts were, and are, adding to the social picture.

Education was one thing which continued to thrive during the depression and the Second World War. The Catholic parochial school was greatly improved and extended, while the public schools were increased in size by the construction of the high school annex, now called the Frank S. Jackson Building. The Clearfield Aviation Institute took up headquarters in the old Punxsutawney Hospital Building, offering technical instruction in various phases of the air industry. The Mary A. Wilson school was condemned and razed. Because of this and the fire which destroyed the Jenks Hill school, Punxsutawney was left with not enough schools to house the school population, which had been increased by the war boom in babies. A start toward curing this illness was made when the new Mary A. Wilson school on East Mahoning Street was begun. Many of the rural pupils who had formerly attended township schools around Punxsutawney were now attending the local schools.

The appearance of the borough was improved by the construction of the large West End bridge, and the straightening of the frightful Indiana Street bridge. Several streets had been paved by the W.P.A., which helped considerably. The Memorial Bandstand in the Park was dedicated in 1932.

Transportation and communication were wonderfully improved between 1929 and 1949. The radio had been carried to the point of perfection with the addition of Frequency Modulation and Television, which began to appear in Punxsutawney in 1948 and 1949. The telephone was now a very dependable instrument. Airmail was an accepted way to carry out written communication.

The churches were continually striving to further themselves. The Roman Catholics built a fine new church on the site of the old one. More churches were added to the roster of the ecclesiastical establishments, with the growth of the Wesleyan Methodist sect and the Pentecostal Tabernacle. It was during this period that the Jehovah Witnesses, that controversial sect, first gained attention in Punxsutawney.

Now the end of the history of Punxsutawney has been reached with this year 1949. In the last twenty years of its existence the town merely carried out trends that had been begun in other days. The period was dominated by the Depression and the Second World War, and even yet the town has not recovered from the shock of the latter. Perhaps a new period has been started, but it is too early to tell at this time. Perhaps the history of Punxsutawney's Sesquicentennial will give the answer to that question.



# Pumpstuney, Pa 1821.

Recorded December, 24, 1821.



Plan of } To whom it may concern  
 of } I do Certify that the within  
 Pumpstuney } plan of the town of Pumpstuney  
 town in the township }  
 of Perry in Jefferson County }  
 Situated on the Bank of big Mahoning }  
 Creek was laid out by me and that }  
 the public ground, lanes, streets, and alleys }  
 as therein represented, were laid out }  
 for Public use forever. }  
 In witness whereof I have }  
 here to set my hand and seal 24<sup>th</sup> December 1821.

David Barclay (seal)



## CHAPTER II

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF EARLY SETTLERS

*Compiled by PHEBE SMITH*

This chapter is devoted to biographical sketches of early settlers whose pioneer efforts laid the foundation upon which the prosperous community of Punxsutawney has been built. Of the hundred inhabitants here in 1850, it was possible to cover only the few about whom the most information could be obtained.

The sketches are arranged in a chronological order, based on the date of each settler's arrival in Punxsutawney. That date is underlined in every sketch.

### JACOB HOOVER

The first white settler to make his home within the present limits of the borough of Punxsutawney was Jacob Hoover. He was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1793 and spent the early years of his life in Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. Hoover settled here in 1814 when he purchased land from the Holland Land Company. His land extended as far east as the present residence of George H. Kurtz, 312 West Mahoning Street. Jacob Hoover pitched his tent beside the well-known Gillespie Spring. A short time later three pioneer hunters, Patrick Brady, Adam Kelly, and Harry Hunter, were attracted by the light of Hoover's campfire and joined him. Their meal consisted of the meat of a bear that had been shot by one of the hunters.

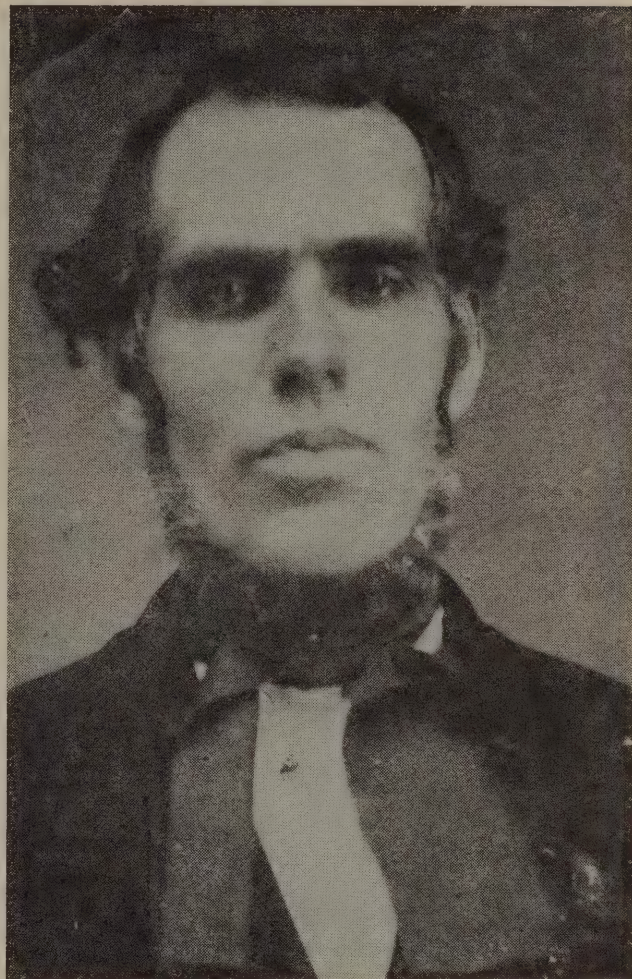
In 1814 on this same site (now 1036 W. Mahoning St.) Hoover built his cabin of logs. This house, slightly remodeled is at present (1949) owned and occupied by Mrs. A. C. Allison.

After the completion of his home, Hoover built a story and a half log gristmill, eighteen by twenty-five, in which were used burrs of native stone. Some time later he erected a three story frame gristmill, forty by forty, on the present site of the Star Broom Works, 105 South Main St. The log gristmill became the wheelhouse, and two sets of burrs were in use. He then built a sawmill on Sawmill Run between his cabin and his gristmill. In 1840 he built a foundry in Clayville, the first in the county. The Star Iron Works, now owned by W. E. Porter, was an outgrowth of that foundry. Twelve years later (1852) he erected a large steam mill.

For some time after he settled in Clayville, Mr. Hoover "kept bachelor's hall," as the early settlers said. In 1820, however, he married Nancy, a daughter of William and Jane Young, old residents of Armstrong (now Clarion) County.

In 1822 the first Methodist Church in the county was organized in the Hoover home. Only a few gathered for prayer; but, as interest grew, benches were placed in the gristmill where the services were held.

Jacob Hoover led a busy life, farming, lumbering, and overseeing his mills. He was one of the most enterprising of the early settlers—a good citizen and



JACOB HOOVER  
1793—1853

a hard worker. His wife, Nancy, died in 1851, and Mr. Hoover died in 1853.

His only direct descendant, now living in Punxsutawney, is Mrs. Nancy Robinson, a granddaughter.

### THE REV. DAVID BARCLAY

Punxsutawney's founder was a Presbyterian minister, Rev. David Barclay. Little information is available concerning his early life before he settled here.

The original site of Punxsutawney consisted of 327 acres bought from the Hall and Laird Co. by Samuel Findley, for whom Findley Street was named. This property was sold by Findley's executors to Rev. Barclay June 10, 1819. On September 25, 1822 he gave one-third of the land to his son-in-law, Dr. John Jenks.

Although the land did not then belong to him, Rev. Barclay settled here and in October of 1818 built a log cabin on what is now the northwest corner of



Front and Mahoning Streets. Rev. Barclay and Dr. Jenks went east and returned with their families a short time later. In 1832 David Barclay donated to the settlement for a market-place a plot of land, now known as Barclay Square, after he and Dr. Jenks had laid out the town in eight squares. In Elk Run Rev. Barclay built a gristmill of which Dr. Jenks owned one-third.

Rev. Barclay began the organization of the Presbyterian Church here early in the community's life. The church, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was the second church established here. In 1832 Rev. Barclay and his son-in-law went into the mercantile business. The Rev. Mr. Barclay was also instrumental in starting Punxsutawney's first school in 1823.

### DOCTOR JOHN W. JENKS

Dr. John Wildman Jenks was born June 24, 1793. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania before the War of 1812, and from the medical department of that institution in 1816. He married Mary, a daughter of the Reverend David Barclay.

In 1818 Dr. John Jenks came here from Newton, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In 1818 he built the first house ever erected in the limits of what was then Punxsutawney on the southeast corner of Penn Street and and Farmer's Alley. Dr. Jenks had a number of other

"firsts" to his credit, such as being the first physician here, operating the first tannery in this section, being elected a member of Punxsutawney's first board of commissioners in 1824, being one of the first associate judges of the county, and being the father of the first white male child (Phineas) born here September 2, 1819.

Dr. Jenks could not depend on his medical practice alone for support. Therefore, in 1824 he and his father-in-law built a gristmill and a sawmill on Elk Run. By 1826 John Jenks' possessions were " $\frac{1}{3}$  of a sawmill,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a gristmill, a house, and a bull."

When full rights, powers, and privileges were bestowed upon the citizens of the county, Dr. Jenks was appointed to fill the position of associate judge, an office he continued to hold for most of the remainder of his life.

The Jenks were noted for their generosity and their hospitality. Their second home, which is the present Jenks' residence, was always open to friends and strangers alike, and it was often said that the only difference between a hotel and the Jenks house was that "the Jenks house had no license, and made no charge."

Dr. Jenks and the Reverend David Barclay donated to the town the ground on North Findley Street for a cemetery. Dr. John W. Jenks died in 1850, and in that cemetery he and his wife are buried.

### JUDGE ELIJAH HEATH

Judge Elijah Heath, one of Jefferson County's first associate judges, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, in October of 1776. When he was about eighteen years old, he enlisted in the State Militia and served during the War of 1812.

He first came to Jefferson County about 1818 and remained here four years. When he arrived in Punxsutawney, the only inhabitants were: Abram Weaver, the Rev. David Barclay, Dr. John W. Jenks, Nathaniel Tindle, and their families. In 1822 Mr. Heath returned to New Jersey and married Miss Mary W. Jenks, a sister of Dr. John W. Jenks. The couple moved to Punxsutawney shortly after their marriage and thence to Brookville about 1832.

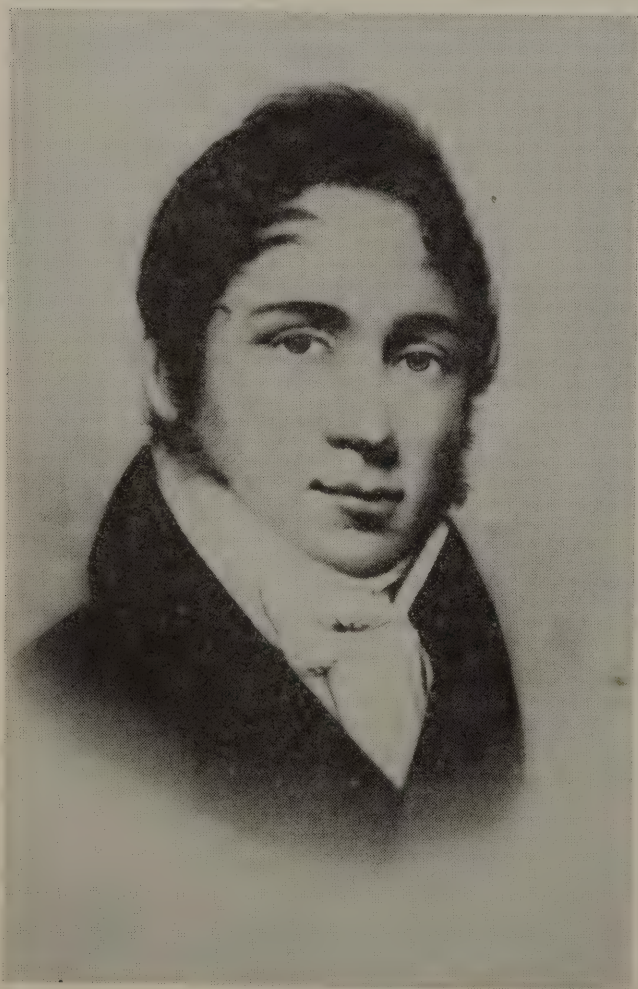
Mr. Heath was extremely active in the political life of Jefferson County. In 1823 he was one of the county's most avid abolitionists, even though it was, at that time, a heinous offense to take a stand against slavery. At one time he was fined \$2,000 for aiding the escape of two runaway slaves from the Brookville jail.

Judge Elijah Heath died at New Monmouth, New Jersey, in May of 1875, at the age of ninety-nine.

### JOSEPH AND REUBEN WINSLOW

Joseph W. Winslow, one of Punxsutawney's pioneer settlers, was born at Wiscasset, Maine, December 10, 1804. He was the youngest of nine sons born to Carpenter and Elizabeth (Coulburn) Winslow, who with their family settled in Jefferson County in 1818.

In 1832 Joseph married Christina, youngest daughter of Joseph Long, of Punxsutawney. The couple became the parents of eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. Joseph Winslow died May 8, 1894.



JOHN W. JENKS  
1793—1850



Reuben C. Winslow, the eldest son of Joseph Winslow, was born November 9, 1833. He worked on his father's farm during the summer and went to school during the winter until he was twenty-two. He took up the study of law and, after being admitted to the bar in February of 1858, entered into partnership with Phineas W. Jenks, of this city. This partnership was dissolved in May, 1880, and, in the same month, Mr. Winslow became a partner of John E. Calderwood.

On June 24, 1858 Reuben was married to Martha, youngest daughter of John Drum, one of Punxsutawney's pioneers. The couple had two sons, John Carlton (born June 13, 1859) and William W. (born May 7, 1862), both deceased.

#### WILLIAM CAMPBELL

William Campbell was born January 22, 1799. He and his twin brother, Robert, came from Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, to Punxsutawney before 1819\*. William married Martha A. Slaysman, of Huntingdon. To them eleven children were born. These were: Thaddeus, Anna Rebecca, George Slaysman, Robert, Martha Jane, Margaret Elizabeth, Amanda Amelia, Sarah Louise, Mary Caroline, William Ferguson, and Charles Augustus. Three of the children died in childhood, and the remainder made their homes in either Brookville or Punxsutawney.

Mr. Campbell owned land along the north side of the plaza and also the plaza which he donated to the town for a market place. His house and store, which he later sold to Doctor Joseph Shields, were located in that block.

William Campbell was described as "intelligent and efficient." His efficiency caused him to be selected for many important positions such as postmaster for Punxsutawney August 20, 1863. In addition he was named to enroll the militia of Punxsutawney in answer to Lincoln's call for draftees in August of 1862; and he was appointed one of three commissioners to organize the Mahoning Navigation Company in 1845.

An amusing story about Mr. Campbell was related in an early edition of the *Punxsutawney News* by a man who signed his name, "Old Sox." It seems that William Campbell was very fond of arguing; and, when he did so, he always closed his eyes. One time Mr. Campbell was expressing his viewpoints somewhat vehemently with his eyes closed as usual. He talked at great length; and, when he finally had finished, he opened his eyes only to find that his audience had departed some time before.

William Campbell was one of the early members of the First Baptist Church of Punxsutawney and was most active in religious affairs. He died in 1868, and his wife's death followed two years later. Both are buried in the Findley Street Cemetery.

#### CHARLES C. GASKILL

Charles C. Gaskill came to Punxsutawney from Philadelphia about 1820, (shortly after the arrival of Rev. Barclay). Mr. Gaskill was an agent for the Holland Land Co., appointed by John J. Vandercamp, the general agent of the organization. As the local rep-

\*Cf. John B. Henderson, Jr., in *History of Medical Profession in Jefferson Co. and of Punxsutawney.*

resentative, Mr. Gaskill visited the courts of Jefferson County and several other counties regularly, making sales and receiving payments for land. The greater part of the land in this territory was purchased by settlers from Mr. Gaskill.

He was instrumental in starting the first school in the city in 1823. In addition he and Charles R. Barclay were the pioneer school inspectors of Young Township appointed December 8, 1834.

Mr. Gaskill had the first tavern in town and obtained his license to sell liquor in 1824.

In 1849, he returned to Philadelphia after having disposed of all the remaining Holland land to Reynolds, Smith, Gilpin and Co.

He was kind, courteous, and a devout Quaker. Charles Gaskill died at Cooper's Point, New Jersey, in 1872.

#### ISAAC P. CARMALT

Isaac P. Carmalt, a relative of William Penn, was born in Philadelphia, Penna., September 9, 1794. Mr. Carmalt was a Quaker as were many inhabitants of the "City of Brotherly Love." At an early age he became a carpenter's apprentice. In 1818 he left his native city with two horses and a Dearborn wagon, and in three weeks he crossed the Allegheny Mountains and settled temporarily in Indiana County, Penna.

Mr. Carmalt located in Punxsutawney in 1821 when there were only about five or six families here. A year later he bought a farm near Clayville where the Punxsutawney Country Club grounds are at the present time. In 1823 he married Miss Hannah A. Gaskill, a Quakeress, in Philadelphia.

Perhaps Isaac Carmalt is best known for his position of "stationmaster" of the underground railroad in this city. He defied the law and devised ingenious methods of smuggling escaped slaves from his station to the next in Brookville.

#### JAMES TORRENCE

James Torrence was born August 3, 1812, in Westmoreland County. He was the fifth of nine children of Hugh and Mary (Gray) Torrence. At an early age James became an apprentice in the tanner's trade.

In 1830 he went to Brookville; but, finding Punxsutawney more to his liking, he came here and settled. For \$75 he purchased a tract of land where he erected a tannery and a home. A short time later he bought another tract of approximately the same size. Both of these properties lay in the center of the town and later became extremely valuable.

Mr. Torrence was married in 1836 to Mary Caldwell, a daughter of William and Martha Caldwell, of Indiana County. The couple had seven children: Silas, William, Louisa, Anna, James M., George H., and John. Mary, his wife, died in 1857; James married Mrs. N. J. McElhoes, a daughter of James and Hannah Kier, on July 1, 1858. They had three children, Elizabeth, Ella, and Nannie. His home was on the present site of the Lintz Shoe Store, 127 West Mahoning Street.



In the fall of 1860 he was elected associate judge of Jefferson County. Judge Torrence was an active Whig and Republican, and carried his duties as associate judge well. In 1865 he retired from what had been a most successful business life. The judge was active in not only political but also in religious affairs, for he was an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Punxsutawney.

Judge James Torrence died May 20, 1891, in the seventy-ninth year of his life.

### JOHN DRUM

John Drum, one of Punxsutawney's most industrious citizens, was born July 12, 1806, in Westmoreland County, Penna. He settled here in 1831. Mr. Drum, when very young, was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade.

John was an excellent carpenter, and there was much evidence of his skill in various buildings erected by him in this city. John Drum was head carpenter when the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was built. For the Methodist Church, a frame building, which was erected near Saw Mill Run in 1836 W. E. Gillespie was the contractor and John Drum, the carpenter. He acted as superintendent during the construction of the second Methodist Church, which is now the Salvation Army, 229 West Mahoning Street. His son, James W., designed a large steeple for this building. It was often said that this steeple was a credit to his skill as an architect as well as to the town. In addition it was generally agreed that it was "as handsome a steeple as there was in Western Pennsylvania."

In 1844 John Drum was elected county commissioner and served until 1846. Mr. Drum was also elected Justice of the Peace in which capacity he served for fifteen years.

He had two daughters that resided here after their marriage, they were: Mrs. John Evans and Mrs. R. C. Winslow.

He was one of the first and most active members of the Methodist Church in this city.

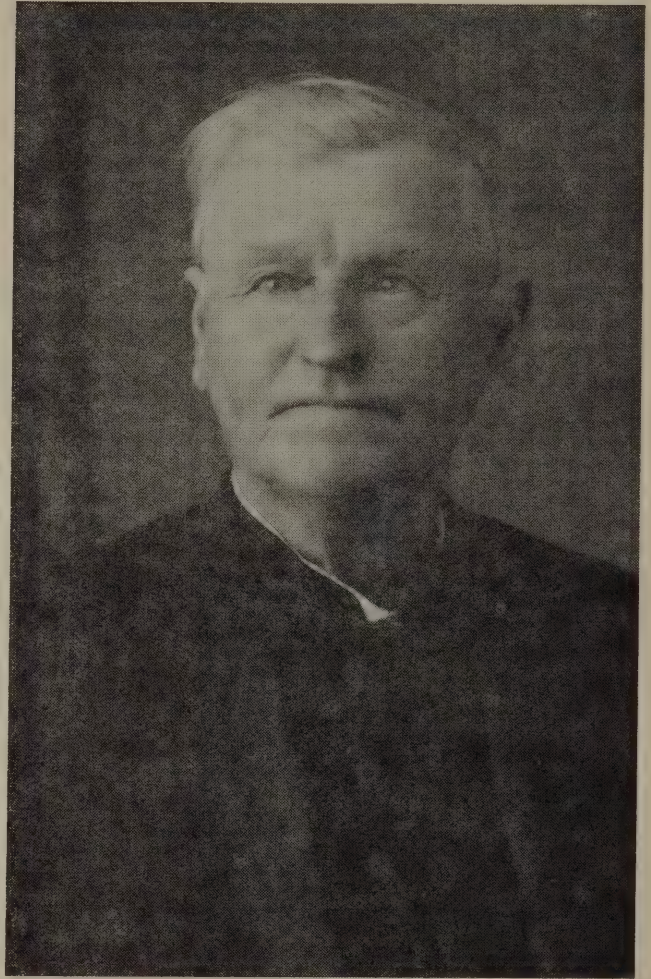
### EPHRAIM BAIR

Ephraim Bair, one of Young Township's first settlers, was born in Lancaster County March 5, 1812. In 1832 at the age of twenty, he walked to Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he heard that Brookville was being laid out as the county seat of Jefferson County. He then walked to Brookville; but being dissatisfied, he continued his trek until he reached Punxsutawney in August of 1832. Here he found a man, John Drum, for whom he had worked in Westmoreland County and who employed him as a carpenter. The principal articles that he made were coffins, sashes, doors, shutters, and furniture.

Upon his arrival in Punxsutawney soon after its birth, Mr. Bair found only the following inhabitants: Dr. John W. Jenks, Isaac P. Carmalt, Judge James Winslow, Mathias Clawson, Charles R. and Rev. David Barclay, Jacob Hoover, James McElwaine, Daniel Graffius, Judge James St. Clair, Christopher and William Long, William Campbell, George M. Simpson,

Charles C. Gaskill, and Daniel Reishel. William Davis and Judge James Torrence settled here a short time later.

After he had been here a short while, Ephraim Bair was awarded a contract to build a part of the Kittanning and Luthersburg Pike from what is now Front Street to some distance across Elk Run. In April, 1865, he entered the mercantile business which



EPHRAIM BAIR

1812—1898

he operated until June, 1891, when he sold to his son, John B. Bair.

Ephraim was married in 1834 to Miss Priscilla Jack, of Punxsutawney. Ten children were born to the Bairs, all of whom are now deceased. Those who survived their father were: Mrs. Emma Altman, John B. Bair, Homer C. Bair, Mrs. Jennie Kelso, and Howard Bair, all of Punxsutawney; and Mrs. J. T. Jamison, of Indiana.

When he settled here, Mr. Bair purchased two lots 115 by 160 from John Hunt on what is now South Gilpin Street. These properties were described as being "near Punxsutawney" which was then farther to the east. He was a large property owner, and one of his dwellings stood on the present site of Penelec on the corner of West Mahoning and North Gilpin Streets. On this corner his son, John B. Bair later operated a general store for many years.



Ephraim Bair was the holder of numerous borough offices which included: burgess, councilman, school director, street commissioner, overseer of the poor, and tax collector.

Mr. Bair was a staunch Republican and had been a member of that party since its inception. He had never missed voting in any election after he reached the voting age. As evidence of his party loyalty, this story was often told: Mr. Bair's son-in-law, a Democrat, was running for the office of burgess. He asked his father-in-law whether he was going to vote for him. "No, my boy," Ephraim replied, "if you want my vote, you will have to get into my party."

Ephraim Bair died January 7, 1898, at the age of eighty-six, Punxsutawney's oldest and one of her most beloved residents.

### WILLIAM DAVIS

William Davis, the Borough of Punxsutawney's first Justice of the Peace, was born November 29, 1810, in Huntingdon County, Penna. He was married to Mary Jane Dean on April 6, 1837. In November of 1838, he and his family came to Punxsutawney. William and Mary Jane had six children, two of whom died in infancy. The others, May S. Campbell, Marie C. Davis, William P. Davis, and John Davis are also deceased.

Mr. Davis was elected Justice of the Peace for what was at that time Young Township. After the incorporation of Punxsutawney in 1849, he served in the same post for an additional twenty-one years. In 1863 he was appointed postmaster of the borough, and he kept that position until his retirement in 1884.

William Davis died Wednesday, January 10, 1894, at the age of eighty-four.

### ELLIS EVANS

Ellis Evans was born February 13, 1788. He married Rebecca McMullen, of Brush Valley, May 22, 1817. The couple moved to Nittany Valley, Centre County. In Centre County their eleven children were born. Later the family moved to Howardville where Ellis was master-miner for two years. In 1835 they moved into Buffalo Run Valley, and there they lived until the spring of 1838 when they moved to Jefferson County, Pennsylvania.

The following account was written by Robert R. Evans, a son:

"In those times there were no railroads running through the country as there are nowadays. The moving had to be done on wagons. Father hired a man with his six-horse team and one of the old-fashioned wagons with a high road-bed and cover, which all our 'flitten' and family was loaded into. It took us six days to get to our journey's end, it being in April when the roads were at the worst. We brought with us two cows and one horse.

"On the day we arrived at Punxsutawney, it rained on us and Mother got wet and took cold, which was the cause of her death. She died on the sixth of June, 1838, which left us in a pretty bad shape, leaving father with nine children right in the woods with

no mother and my oldest sister being only 16 years old and the youngest 4 months, and with very little money to buy anything with. We moved into an old log house, just about half a mile above Walston. Our land was about 2½ miles from there, near what is called Battle Hollow, and there was not a stick cut on the land till we cleared off a spot to build a house on.

"There was no grain in the county to buy. Father went out into Indiana County and bought grain and packed it on the horses' backs, for there was but one wagon in all the country near us, and that wagon was owned by Andrew Gibson, on the farm now owned by Clark Jordan near Oliveburg. That summer we cleared about nine acres and built a hewed log house and got moved into it before winter, and also a round log barn to keep our horse and cows in that winter. We put out about two acres of potatoes and turnips, and they turned out fine, so that was quite a help to us. And that same fall we put out about six acres of wheat. At that time in this country, there was a good deal of smut in the wheat. About every tenth bushel was smut. The wheat had to be washed and dried before it was fit to be taken to the mill to be ground, and then it made pretty blue bread. There was a good deal of rye bread eaten in this country in those days. There were no mills but water mills to grind the grain. There were no steam mills as there are now. The water mills would dry up in the summer time and freeze up in the winter time. At that time there was no lumbering done to any great extent. It was pretty hard to get work in the winter time. Father did a great deal of threshing. He went from barn to barn and threshed out the grain for the tenth bushel. There was no way of threshing—only with the flail. There were no threshing machines in this country for some years after we came to the country."

### ROBERT RICHARDS EVANS

Robert R. Evans, the son of Ellis Evans, was born Nov. 4, 1827. He stayed on his father's farm until May 14, 1847, when he began to serve as a carpenter's apprentice under John Drum of Punxsutawney. He worked as a carpenter between Clearfield and Punxsutawney for some years.

On December 31, 1851 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Jane Trippeer, of Young Township. At that time Mr. Evans bought a house and a lot in Punxsutawney from W. E. Gillespie on the location where the Robinson's Furniture Store, 212 W. Mahoning, now stands. The family's potato patch was on the present site of the Salvation Army building, 229 W. Mahoning St. The couple had seven children, four of whom died in childhood. His wife, Elizabeth, died July 20, 1867 at the age of thirty-three, leaving Robert with three small children.

Miss Mary Margaret Trippeer, sister of Elizabeth, became his second wife, and bore him one son. Mr. Evans was employed during this time in various planing mills near Brookville and Punxsutawney. Mary died October 15, 1871.

February 27, 1873 was the date of Mr. Evans' third marriage. His wife was Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Fleming, of Sportsburg, who bore him four children. Mr. Evans



and Joseph Collins began a planing mill in Clayville in April of 1873. Mary Elizabeth died June 6, 1884.

During the six years after his third wife's death, Mr. Evans cared for his motherless children and a daughter of Mary Elizabeth's by her first marriage.

Miss Rebecca C. Laughlin, a milliner of this community, became Mr. Evans' fourth wife February 26, 1890. Four children were born of this union.

Robert R. Evans was one of the most active members of the Methodist Church in this city and was instrumental in securing funds for the erection of the second Methodist church, a brick structure which is now the Salvation Army Building.

### THE REVEREND THOMAS WILSON

The Reverend Thomas Wilson, Punxsutawney's first regular Baptist minister, was born January 25, 1798 in Centre County, Pennsylvania. In 1799 he and his family moved to Venango County where they lived for nine years. In the next few years the Wilsons resided in Greensburg, Pennsylvania and Crooked Creek, Armstrong County. While in the latter town, the father died in 1811 leaving a family of seven children of whom Thomas, then thirteen, was the oldest. At the approximate age of twenty-three, he was united in marriage to Margaret Barr.

In the spring of 1834, Mr. Wilson joined the Baptist Church as did his wife. A short time later, Thomas Wilson decided to become a minister of the Gospel. He preached his first sermon March 8, 1835, and on April 11 of the same year he received his license to preach. He was ordained in October of 1836 by the Reverend P. Rockyfellow.

He came to this city in 1842 and became the first regular minister of the Baptist Church, which he served until 1846. The Reverend Mr. Wilson was a circuit minister; and, for twenty-two years, he preached in Armstrong, Clarion, Forest, Elk, Jefferson, and Indiana Counties. In every type of weather Thomas Wilson made his rounds on horseback or on foot. He was instrumental in the organization of ten regular Baptist Churches. While in Punxsutawney, he increased the membership of his charge greatly.

The Reverend Thomas Wilson died November 1, 1856 in Punxsutawney of typhoid fever at the age of fifty-eight. His wife and six children survived him.

### OBED H. NORDSTROM

Obed H. Nordstrom was born in Eastport, Maine, December 3, 1821. At the age of twenty-one (1842) he came to Punxsutawney, where he became one of the town's most prominent businessmen and influential citizens.

In 1864, he established the first brickyard in this section on the South Side of Punxsutawney. For a number of years, Mr. Nordstrom operated a woolen mill on the present site of the Mahoning Valley Milling Company plant, Indiana Street. In addition, he operated a sawmill in connection with a well established lumber business.

Mr. Nordstrom erected, in 1866 the fine homestead (105 Gaskill Ave.) which is still occupied by his

daughter, Mrs. Jessie McQuown. In 1890 he established a brickyard at the corner of Gaskill Avenue and Indiana Street. He operated this yard until his death April 21, 1909 at the age of eighty-seven.

### JOHN B. WILSON

John Barr Wilson was born April 4, 1825 near Dayton, Pennsylvania. He was the eldest son of the Reverend Thomas and Margaret Barr Wilson. The Reverend Wilson was one of the pioneer Baptist ministers of this section. John Wilson came to Punxsutawney in 1842 with his father's family. He taught school in the town and in other parts of the county. For a short time he pursued the study of law but abandoned it to enter the mercantile business.

In 1854 he married Caroline B. Winslow, a daughter of Joseph Winslow of Gaskill Township. The couple had nine children, one of whom Mrs. Jacob Fisher is living. Eight are deceased: Mrs. William M. Gillespie, Mrs. Ira C. Campbell, Joseph W. Wilson, George B. Wilson, Mrs. Robert Taylor, Mrs. George F. Cant, Mrs. George C. Brown, and Mrs. Edward Nicklas.

Mr. Wilson was a brother of Miss Mary A. Wilson for whom one of our elementary schools is named.

In 1875 he was elected associate judge of the county, and he served a full term of five years. He was called upon to serve the unexpired term of the Honorable John Thompson in 1884. Mr. Wilson became Justice of the Peace of Punxsutawney in 1890 and served three years when he resigned because of failing health.

In 1892 Judge Wilson suffered an attack of grip from which he never fully recovered. He had a stroke of paralysis in 1893, and he died April 7, 1894 at the age of sixty-nine years and three days.

Mr. Wilson was a Democrat his entire life. He cast his first presidential vote in 1848 for Lewis Cass and his last in 1892 for Grover Cleveland.

John Barr Wilson in his time was one of Punxsutawney's most outstanding and civic minded citizens.

### JACOB ZEITLER

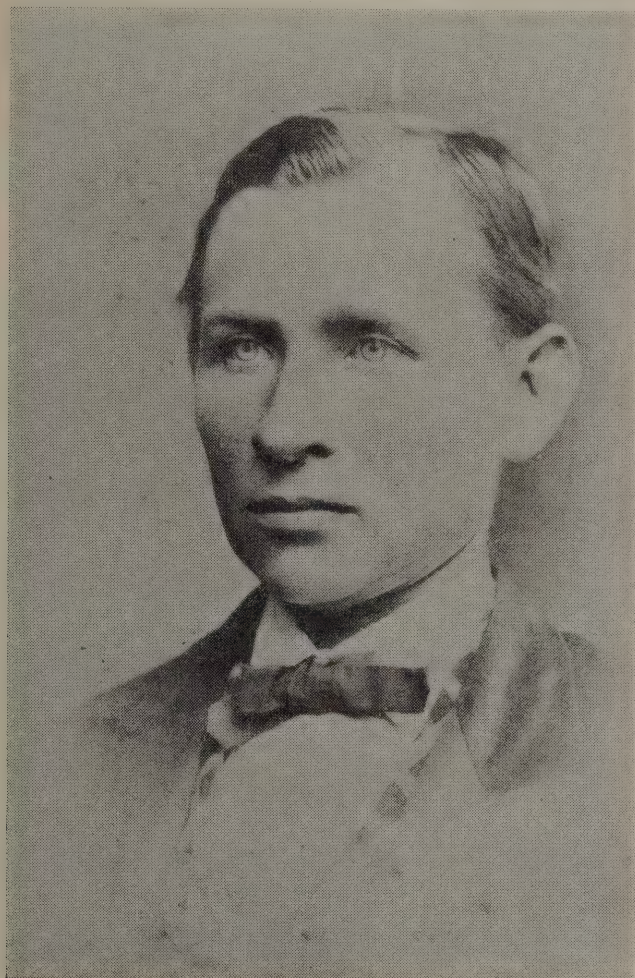
Jacob Zeitler, the founder of Punxsutawney's first insurance agency, was born in 1832 in Germany. He was the seventh of eight children of John Conrad and Margaret (Weiss) Zeitler.

The Zeitler family was much impressed with the tales of America and its opportunities, so the eldest son came in 1845 to see whether the stories were true. His ship was caught in a storm in the North Atlantic and was forced to land in Greenland. Some of the pilgrims wished to return home, while others wanted to keep on until they reached America. A vote was taken; and, as the majority did not wish to turn back, the ship sailed on, to the colonies. The trip from Germany to the New World took ninety days.

The young German found work in an iron plant near Foxburg, Pennsylvania. After receiving his first pay check, he immediately wrote his family to sell everything they owned and leave for America as quickly as possible. The rest of the family did exactly as the eldest son had advised and sold their property.



One day in 1846 the entire family boarded a ship bound for the colonies. All were aboard except the father, who was checking on some details on shore. However, as he mounted the gangplank, he slipped and fell into the water. He was badly hurt and near death when he was rescued. The family unpacked their baggage and returned home. The next year (1847) the sturdy father had recovered sufficiently,



JACOB ZEITLER  
1832—1901

and the Zeitlers once again set out for their "promised land."

They landed in Baltimore, Maryland, and went to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where they resided for a short time. The following year, 1848, the Zeitler family moved to Punxsutawney.

Jacob Zeitler attended school in Germany from the age of six to twelve years, and then worked on a farm until his arrival in this country. He was apprenticed to the saddler's trade; and, during the four years he was learning the trade, he received his board, washing, and \$20 a year to clothe himself. After these four years, Jacob still had sufficient clothes and \$3.50.

He established himself in the saddlery business here in 1852. In 1856 he founded an insurance agency in the same place as his harness shop, which was a one story building near the present site of the Freas Brothers' Goodyear Store, 118 East Mahoning Street.

Two employees worked in the harness shop, while Mr. Zeitler was mainly concerned with the sale of fire insurance.

In 1857, Jacob Zeitler married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel B. Hughes. They had ten children, all of whom are deceased with the exception of Thaddeus, a resident of Brookville, Pennsylvania.

### JAMES E. MITCHELL

James E. Mitchell was born December 6, 1825 in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The exact date of his arrival in Punxsutawney is not known, but he came early in her history.

He was married September 2, 1857 to Caroline, a daughter of Jacob Hoover, Punxsutawney's first settler. The couple had five children the youngest of whom, Mrs. Nancy Robinson of this city, still lives here.

Mr. Mitchell entered the lumber business, and he frequently went on the rafting trips to Pittsburgh. A short time later, he was made associate judge of Jefferson County.

Judge Mitchell died March 4, 1894 at the age of sixty-nine. His wife Caroline, died just one week later on March 11.

### INFORMATION:

about the following from obituaries lent by Miss Nan Wilson:

Ephraim Bair  
William Davis  
James Torrence  
John B. Wilson  
Rev. Thomas Wilson

**1433991**

about the following from William J. McKnight's *History of Jefferson County*:

Rev. David Barclay  
Isaac P. Carmalt  
John Drum  
Charles Gaskill  
Elijah Heath  
Jacob Hoover  
Dr. John W. Jenks

about Jacob Zeitler from:

*Commemorative Biographical Records of Central Pennsylvania* and Mr. Herman F. Weiss.

about William Campbell from:

*Campbells of Kishacoquillas Valley*, courtesy of Mrs. N. H. Boyd.

about Obed Nordstrom from:

A sketch of his life by his daughter, Mrs. Jessie McQuown.

about Ellis and Robert Evans from:

A history of the Evans family, written by R. R. Evans, obtained from Miss Dorothy Jenks.

about Jacob Hoover from:

Material furnished by Mrs. A. C. Allison.

about James E. Mitchell from:

Mrs. Nancy Robinson.

about Ephraim Bair from:

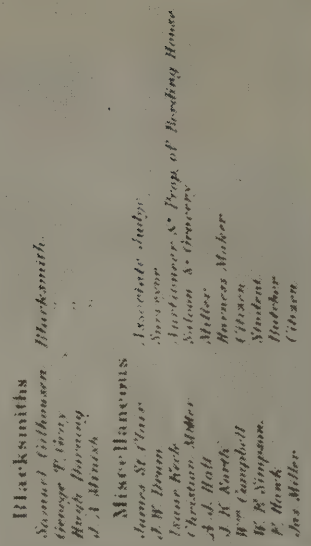
"Biography of Ephraim Bair" by his son, John Bair—courtesy of Miss Emma Kelso.

about the Winslow family from:

Kate M. Scott's *History of Jefferson County* and from information furnished by Edward Winslow.



R. C. Winslow



Prop. of Jennings House  
" " Adelbert Hotel & Apartments

36



## CHAPTER III

# POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

### A BRIEF POLITICAL HISTORY OF THE BOROUGH OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

The beautiful Mahoning Valley, in which the Borough of Punxsutawney is situated, was settled by the Indians in the early 18th Century. They named their village "Punxsutauney." Soon thereafter a number of white men and women came through the forests from Indiana and Westmoreland Counties for the purpose of trading with the Indians of Punxsutauney.

The white population increased slowly. In the early 19th Century James Findley purchased tracts of land containing 327 acres, described as being situated on Stump Creek in Northumberland County, as appears by Deed recorded in Indiana County in Deed Book 4, page 94. In 1819 Daniel Standard procured a Power of Attorney from James Findley and others, recorded in Indiana County in Deed Book 4, page 74, wherein he was authorized to sell and make deeds for all the aforesaid tracts of land. This land, described as having been situate in Young Township, Jefferson County, was conveyed by Daniel Standard, Attorney-in-Fact, to David Barclay, as evidenced by Deed recorded in Jefferson County in Deed Book 1, page 164. In 1832 David Barclay and wife conveyed this land to Charles R. Barclay and recited in their conveyance that the land included the Town of Punxsutauney. Dr. John W. Jenks, son-in-law of Rev. Barclay, acquired an interest in these tracts of land and he and Rev. Barclay made a gift to the Town of Punxsutauney for the benefit of the public, of a tract of land 212 by 320 feet, which they designated the "Public Square." In 1838 John W. Jenks and Charles R. Barclay procured a patent from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 327 acres, 148 perches of land theretofore purchased by them from James Findley and others, situate in Young Township, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania.

By 1849 the white population had grown to about 100 and the inhabitants decided that they should organize into a Borough. Therefore, on the 25th day of February, 1850, Hon. William F. Johnston, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved an Act of the General Assembly, No. 483, to incorporate Punxsutauney in Young Township, Jefferson County, into a borough. This Act became effective from and after the third Saturday in May, 1850, and provided that the corporate name and style of the new borough should be "The Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Punxsutauney." (The correct statutory name is Punxsutauney.)

"Beginning at a post north-east corner of James Winslow's land; thence east sixty perches to a post on lands of William Campbell; thence north seventy-one degrees, east eight-eight perches to a post on lands of John W. Jenks; thence south nineteen degrees, east thirty-eight perches to an elm on the bank of Big Mahoning creek near John Drums; thence south twenty-four degrees, east at twelve, corner of Water and Market streets, same course of fifty-five

perches to a willow on the bank of Mahoning; thence south seventy-one degrees, west one hundred and thirty-four perches, to a cherry on bank of Big Mahoning, near the mouth of James Saint Clair's mill race; thence north seventy-four and one-half degrees, west sixty-nine perches to a white pine near the mouth of James Winslow's ditch, on the bank of Mahoning; thence south seventy-eight and one-half degrees, west sixty-seven perches, to a willow on the line between Jacob Hoover and James Winslow; thence north along said line ninety-three perches to a post corner; thence east along the line of Lewis Wharton and James Winslow, eighty perches to the place of beginning."

(The original area of the Town of Punxsutauney aggregated about 150 acres.)

According to records found in the Recorder's Office at Brookville, the first election in Punxsutawney after its incorporation was held in 1850. Meanwhile, the population continued to grow and, as shown at No. 13 December Sessions, 1862, in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Jefferson County, the petitioners set forth, inter alia, that they labored "Under *grate inconveniency* for want of authority to make or cause to be made pavements or sidewalks in said borough," whereupon, they prayed the Court "to extend to the Borough the corporate powers set forth in the Act of General Assembly passed in the year 1857, regulating boroughs within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." On December 8, 1862, the Court granted a rule to show cause, which was to be served upon the corporate authorities of the Borough of Punxsutawney. On January 9, 1863, the Rule prayed for issued and was served on the Chief Burgess and members of the Town Council. On May 15, 1863, Hon. James Campbell, President Judge, ordered that "all and singular the General Borough Laws of the Commonwealth be and hereby are extended to the Borough of Punxsutawney, subject to the Construction and limitations and possessing the powers and privileges conferred by the same and that the provisions of the former charter of said Borough shall be and hereby are annulled so far as they are in conflict with the General Borough Laws aforesaid."

The first form of government, as the earliest available records show, seems to have been based upon the following By-Laws, (taken from the Ordinance Book of 1850) which were transcribed by the Town Clerk at the request of the Burgess and revised and adopted by the council on June 1, 1863, and which provide that:

I. The Burgess and Town Council shall meet annually after the election for the said offices at such places as they shall determine and organize according to law. The Burgess shall be President of the Council when present but in case of his absence, a



member of Council shall be elected President, pro tem.

II. The Burgess and Town Council shall, at the first meeting or as soon after their election as possible, appoint a Treasurer, a Clerk, and Street Commissioner from the electors of the Borough to serve for the ensuing year.

III. The Burgess and Town Council shall annually assess a tax on the taxable inhabitants of the Borough on the third Monday in May of each year.

IV. During the transaction of business in sessions, the members of the Council shall be governed by Parliamentary Law.

V. When the time of meeting is appointed, the members must meet within ten minutes of the designated hour. Members failing to be present shall be fined five cents for the first offense and twenty-five cents for the second and thereafter. The offender or offenders shall be excused from the above fine in case of unavoidable absence, by a vote of the members present.

VI. The Burgess and Town Council shall meet on the first Monday in each month, in the Council chamber at seven o'clock P. M.

VII. The clerk of the Council shall keep correctly the minutes of the preceding meetings, make out duplicates for the collection of taxes, draw in attest all orders upon the Treasurer, record all ordinances and by-laws, and do all other writing required by the Councilmen.

VIII. The Council may adjourn from time to time but no action can be taken unless a quorum of majority of the members are present.

IX. The meeting of Council may be called at any time by the Burgess or at the request of three members of Council. No action can be taken in such a meeting unless all the members have been notified.

Also at this Council meeting of June 1st, 1863, officers were appointed and Councilmen sworn in.

The first few ordinances passed by the first Council are of little importance but are interesting in a historical sense simply because they are the marks of the first government in the Borough of Punxsutawney. Several of the earliest ordinances provided for the making of pavements by the various private citizens. Among the first thirteen ordinances which were all repealed by a later one, were some providing for footwalks; preserving the public peace; governing huckstering and peddling; and governing use of explosives. Specifically, Ordinance No. 1 rendered it unlawful to place any obstruction or nuisance on the Public Square, streets, or any part of the Borough, or to allow any refuse to be on the streets or alleys, and provided for a penalty to be paid by any offender. This ordinance was passed on August 30th, 1850. Ordinance No. 3 provided that "anyone leading beasts on the sidewalks or pavements should be fined." Ordinance No. 5 stated that it was unlawful to allow swine to run at large in the borough. Ordinance No. 62 provided an early Borough Code. Ordinance No. 77 regulated stables kept in the Borough. Ordinance No. 78 prohibited the sale of phosphate. These last three ordinances are now also obsolete. The more

important ordinances up to the present time (1949) fall into four headings and show not only the political, but also the industrial and social development of Punxsutawney.

UNDER THE FIRST GROUPING OR HEADING COME THOSE ORDINANCES WHICH SHOW THE CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT. The earliest evidence (aside from the by-laws recorded above) which the Ordinance Books contain relating to the form and changes in the Government of the Borough of Punxsutawney, is this statement:

"A supplement to an act regulating the election of Burgess and Town Council of the Boroughs of Indiana and Brookville, fixing their terms of office and increasing their powers, and extending the same to the Borough of Punxsutawney, Jefferson County, Pa." Approved April 8th, 1873.

Evidently the following Act, which is given below in summarized form is the one referred to by the foregoing supplement. The "Copy of the Act" (as it is entitled in the earliest records) regulates the term of office of the Town Councilmen and of the Burgess, defines who shall be public officials, and sets forth additional powers consigned to them in their official capacity.

On petition presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions in February, 1872, the number of Town Council was raised to six and a Councilman appointed by the Court.

At No. 43 December Sessions, 1893, the electors and freeholders of the Borough petitioned the Court for a division of the Borough into two election districts, wherein they set forth, "that the said Borough of Punxsutawney by reason of its size, containing about 900 voters, is inconvenient to the inhabitants thereof for election purposes," and prayed the Court to divide the Borough into two election districts, known as the North and Southern Districts, respectively, which the court, on January 8, 1894, decreed should be done.

The next important change in the government of Punxsutawney was the passing of "The General Borough Code," or Ordinance 39 as it is called in the Ordinance Book. This Ordinance was enacted and ordained March seventh, 1898, and provided for the Government of the Borough of Punxsutawney and consisted of the following Articles:

I. Elections of officers and appointments of committees.

II. Powers and Duties of Borough Officers.

III. Offenses against the Public Peace.

IV. Streets and Alleys.

V. Sidewalks.

VI. Railroads—Speed of Engines and Cars.

VII. Injury to Public or Private Property.

VIII. Fires and Fire Engines.

IX. Fees.

X. Public Safety.

XI. Exhibitions.

The remaining Articles (10 in number) deal with other phases of City Government. Besides these there is a section entitled "Rules and Regulations of the



Board of Health of the Borough of Punxsutawney." This Ordinance is no longer in effect, having been replaced by Ordinance No. 243, which was passed on May 5, 1924. This new Code, which is still in effect, contains the following:

Provisions for a system of government for the Borough of Punxsutawney, revising, supplementing, and consolidating existing ordinances heretofore enacted for the government of said Borough, and providing for the enforcement of the same, and repealing certain ordinances. Following is a list of the more important Articles in the Code:

I. Organization

Section 1. Organization and election of officers.

Section 2. Oath of affirmation for Councilmen.

Section 3. Time of meetings.

II. Powers and duties of all Borough Officers.

III. Committees and their duties.

IV. Streets, sidewalks, and sewers.

V. Public peace and order.

Section 1. Breaches of the peace.

Section 2. Public nuisances.

Section 6. Limits activities on Sunday.

Section 11. Minors.

Clause A. Working ages and hours.

Clauses B, C, D, and E. Curfew regulations. (repealed by Ord. 439).

VI Public Safety.

Section I. Flues and Chimneys.

Section II. Fire Limits (Amended by Ord. 261).

Section III. Snow and Ice on Sidewalks.

Sections IV through XI. Similar safety matters.

VI. Public or Private Property.

VIII. Nuisances.

IX. Licenses and License Fees.

X. Enforcement.

Section 1. Fines and Imprisonment

Section 3. Vagrants and Tramps.

Section 4. Proceedings.

XI. Repeal of previous ordinances in conflict with this one.

In January of 1906, the freeholders of the Borough petitioned the Court of Quarter Sessions for the appointment of viewers to inquire into the propriety of dividing the Borough into wards for the convenience of the inhabitants for election and other purposes, wherein they represented that the voting population was about 1500. On November 12, 1906, by virtue of a decree of Court filed, the Borough was divided into four wards.

Also showing an early change in the government of Punxsutawney, is a petition presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions in April of 1907. It was for the appointment of Town Councilmen in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th wards of the Borough of Punxsutawney to fill vacancies therein. These vacancies occurred when the Borough of Punxsutawney and the Borough of Clayville were consolidated, and the number of Councilmen for each ward was fixed at three making each of the wards entitled to one more Councilman than it then had.

Then in November, 1908, the citizens of the Borough having found that eighteen councilmen constituted an unwieldy number to properly function, pe-

titioned the Court to reduce the number of councilmen in each ward to two, whereupon, the Court, on December 23, 1908, decreed that the number of Town Council to be elected in each of said wards of the consolidated borough be decreased to two.

Ordinance No. 269 approved February 4, 1926 provided for a public hearing of property owners and others interested in any municipal improvements before final estimates and assessments were made for the same.

Ordinance No. 385 established a system for registration of deeds and titles to real estate in the borough, with the Borough Engineer making books, plans, and maps showing locations and dimensions of properties. This ordinance was passed February 3, 1936. A resolution made on August 3, 1938, created a Municipal Authority, and had Articles of Incorporation filed in the office of The Secretary of the Commonwealth.

These ordinances tend to show the development of the Government of Punxsutawney up to the present time.

## A SECOND GROUP CONCERNS THE PHYSICAL EXPANSION OF THE TOWN.

At the December Sessions, 1888, of the Court of Quarter Sessions, a petition of freeholders was presented to the Court for the purpose of enlarging the limits of the Borough of Punxsutawney and on February 5, 1889, the Court confirmed the certificate of the Grand Jury and decreed that parts of the townships of Young and Bell were annexed to the Borough of Punxsutawney. By virtue of this annexation the area of Punxsutawney was increased 1,239.2 acres.

The expansion of Punxsutawney can be also illustrated in no small measure by summarizing the ordinances passed from 1850 to 1898, which lay out the streets. Of these ordinances, only those regulating the important streets will be considered.

Ordinance No. 1½ provided that Mahoning Street be extended to the Borough line.

Ordinance No. 14, among other less important ones, ordained and established the laying out of the following streets:

1. West Mahoning Street from Clayville Borough Line to the junction of Mahoning and Gilpin Streets

2. Mahoning Street from Gilpin Street to the Presbyterian Church "by the iron bridge" in East End;

3. Pine Street from the Clayville Borough Line to Gilpin Street;

4. Torrence Street from the end of Pine Street at Gilpin to Findley Street. (This section is now called Pine Street);

5. Union Street from Gilpin Street to the Mahoning Creek;

6. Findley Street from the old Borough Line on the North to Liberty Street;

7. Penn Street from Railroad Street to Liberty Street;

8. Jefferson Street from the old Borough Line on the North to Liberty Street; and

9. Front Street from Union Street to Farmer's Alley.



This ordinance (No. 14) was passed October 22, 1894.

Ordinance No. 17, enacted and ordained August 3, 1896 provides for the grading and paving (to a width of 29 feet) of West Mahoning Street from the West Borough Line to the Property of Judge Mitchell. This part of the street was at the time made of planks, and was to be paved with brick. To enforce this ordinance, Council authorized the Burgess to issue a loan of \$8,000 by ordinance No. 18, passed at the same session as No. 17.

Ordinance No. 19 was the first providing for the setting of curbstone of "good and hard sandstone."

Ordinance No. 41 provides for the paving and grading with brick of that portion of Mahoning Street from where the Pennsylvania and North Western Railway crosses East Mahoning to the east end of the paved street on West Mahoning Street, near the residence of the late J. E. Mitchell. This ordinance was passed April 19, 1898.

Ordinance No. 119 is "An ordinance designating Indiana Street, Church Street, North Findley, Union, South Penn, South Findley, North Penn, South Jefferson, Elk, Front, and Hill Street in the Borough of Punxsutawney." This was enacted and ordained September 24, 1906.

Proceedings were commenced in 1907 for the consolidation of the Borough of Punxsutawney with the Borough of Clayville so as to form one municipal division under the provisions of a joint agreement between the Burgesses and inhabitants of the two Boroughs. The electors of the respective municipalities had, on September 19, 1907, voted for and against said consolidation as follows:

Punxsutawney—	
For consolidation .....	512
Against consolidation .....	29
Clayville—	
For consolidation .....	254
Against consolidation .....	143

On the 7th day of March, 1907, letters patent were issued to the consolidated borough under the name and style of the "Borough of Punxsutawney."

### THE THIRD GROUP OF ORDINANCES WHICH HELP TO SHOW THE GROWTH OF PUNXSUTAWNEY, ARE THOSE DEALING WITH PUBLIC INDUSTRIES.

Ordinances Regulating Street Lighting in Punxsutawney:

The first Ordinance to be found regarding the lighting of the Borough of Punxsutawney is Ordinance No. 2, which was passed by the Town Council, November 18, 1889. This statute gives the Punxsutawney Electric Light and Power Co. the license to erect poles and string wires in the Borough. According to this statute the company was to provide the Municipal Building with what light the Council should direct, free of charge.

Then Ordinance No. 9, enacted and ordained September 12, 1892, grants a right of way to the Jefferson Electric Light, Heat, and Power Co.

According to Ordinance No. 85, passed in July, 1903, Punxsutawney entered into a contract with the Jefferson Electric Light, Heat, and Power Co. The

Ordinance reads "An Ordinance authorizing the President and Secretary of the Town Council of the Borough of Punxsutawney to enter into a 10 year contract with the Jefferson Electric Light, Heat, and Power Co. of Punxsutawney for the purpose of lighting the streets of the said Borough." The charge was fixed at \$65 per light per year, with one arc light in the park and one at the City Hall, and incandescent light for the City Hall provided free of charge.

Ordinance No. 169 transfers all rights of Ordinance 145 (an ordinance which gave the Jefferson Electric Light, Heat, and Power Co. the right to string wires in all parts of Punxsutawney) to the Jefferson Electric Co. This Ordinance was passed December 2, 1912.

Then Ordinance No. 192 states that all the streets of Punxsutawney shall be lighted at the Borough's expense. Ordinance 193 gives the contract to the Jefferson Electric Co. These were passed on September 17, 1920.

Ordinance No. 387, passed February 10, 1936 provided for the furnishing of electric street lighting service to the Borough by the Pennsylvania Electric Co.

This, then, is the legal side of Punxsutawney's electric lighting system.

### Telephone and Telegraph Ordinances:

According to Ordinance No. 27, passed October 18, 1897, the Summerville Telephone Co. was the first to be granted the right of way in Punxsutawney. Five years later, Ordinance No. 66 was passed (date, April 21, 1902) which gave the Farmer's Telephone Co. the "right to operate and maintain a line of, in, and along the streets and alleys of the Borough of Punxsutawney." Then, on May 4, 1903, Ordinance No. 83 was passed which granted "permission to the American Telegraph and Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania to construct its lines of poles and wires upon and along the public highways of the Borough of Punxsutawney." This ordinance also provided that the poles erected should be "reasonably straight."

Ordinance No. 294, passed May 7, 1928, authorized the Bell Telephone Co. to place its poles and cables in the Borough, and provided for telephone service by the Bell Telephone Co. Thus, Punxsutawney secured this part of its means of communication in the period from 1897 to 1928.

### Ordinance Regulating the Provision of Natural Gas:

Ordinance No. 90, enacted and ordained May 23, 1904 is "An Ordinance granting to A. L. Cole or his assigns the right to enter the Borough of Punxsutawney for the purpose of furnishing Natural Gas and providing for the acceptance of this Ordinance by said A. L. Cole or his assigns."

### Ordinances Relating to the Street Railway Companies of Punxsutawney:

On April 1, 1907, two Ordinances were passed which deal with early street railways in Punxsutawney. Ordinance No. 122 "conferred certain privileges and franchises upon the Mahoning Valley Street Railway Co. to enter upon and use streets here mentioned for construction and operation of its street railways." The streets are: "—begin at point on Graffius Avenue where the Jefferson Traction Company's line crosses under the Pennsylvania Railroad's trestle; thence along Graffius Avenue to the highway leading from Graffius



Avenue to Albion; and thence along the Public Highway to the Borough line."

Ordinance No. 123 states that the Jefferson Traction Company shall have the privilege and franchise to enter upon and use the streets for construction of its tracks necessary for maintenance and operation of its street railways.

#### Ordinance Regulating Water Works:

Ordinance No. 129 confers privileges and franchises upon the Citizens' Water Co.; defines and limits the grant; prescribes in what manner the company shall use and occupy the public thoroughfares; defines how and in what manner the Borough may purchase the plant and within what time; fixes the interest charges and maximum cost of construction; designates when the charter must be applied for, and when the water must be furnished; specifies the quality of water and fixes the maximum water rates. It was also provided that the company should at all times furnish pure and wholesome water; maintain sufficient pressure (100 pounds) for fire purposes at all times; and supply water for public drinking fountains and watering troughs. This ordinance was passed August 12, 1907.

On October 5, 1914, an ordinance (No. 175) was passed which provided for the construction, and establishment of a water works controlled by the Borough Council.

#### THE FINAL GROUP OF ORDINANCES SHOWS PUNXSUTAWNEY'S SOCIAL GROWTH.

Ordinance No. 4 was the first ordinance providing for the building and locating of sewers along the streets so that the health and general welfare of the people of the Borough should be carefully and fully protected.

Resolution No. 54½, taken from the Ordinance Book, resolved that on and after September 3, 1900 there should be a fee for use of the cells in the Borough Lockup for other than those committed by the Burgess or arrested by the police of the Borough.

Ordinance No. 68 established a Borough datum or bench mark for the Borough, at the north-west corner of the Public Square, the elevation being 1217.63 feet approximate level above the sea. This ordinance provided that all elevations and grades in the Borough should be referred to this mark. The ordinance was passed in July of 1902.

Ordinance No. 82 regulated the manner of posting bills and advertisements in the Borough; fixed the license fee for bill posting; and provided penalties for violating the ordinance. This ordinance was passed in February of 1903.

Ordinance No. 113, passed December 11, 1905, was to get the consent of the electors to increase the Borough indebtedness to erect a building for Municipal purposes, and to store and care for the fire apparatus and hose owned by the Borough.

Ordinance No. 140, passed in 1909, provided for the creation, organization, and governing of a Central Fire Department consisting of not more than 20 members. At the meeting in which this ordinance was passed, members of the newly created fire department were approved and sworn in, and a Fire Chief was appointed.

Ordinance No. 142, passed September 6, 1909, was a zoning ordinance. It provided for obtaining permits to build, and named materials to be used in building.

Ordinance No. 204, passed May 8, 1922, established and regulated a Curb Market in and for the Borough of Punxsutawney. The place designated was the plaza between North Jefferson and Penn Streets on space 15 feet from the curb thence extending south a distance of 15 feet. The hours were from 5:00 to 11:00 A. M. on Wednesday and Saturday. Each farmer had to pay a license fee of 10 cents per day.

Resolution No. 232, passed on October 25, 1922, resolved that there should be submitted to the voters the question of establishing and maintaining a free, public, and non-sectarian library, by levying one mill on the dollar on all taxable property.

Resolution No. 233 directed that the necessary steps be taken to put the above resolution into effect, since the vote on November 7, 1922 was 1540 "for," and 711 "against".

Ordinance No. 246, passed June 2, 1924, was the first parking ordinance. It provided for regulation of parking on Mahoning Street. This ordinance was amended by Ordinances 262 and 299, and was finally repealed by Ordinance No. 415.

Ordinance No. 275, passed December 12, 1926, was the first ordinance providing for traffic signals. It was repealed by Ordinance No. 415.

Ordinance No. 288, passed March 5, 1928, provided for affixing the name "Barclay Square" to what heretofore has been generally known as the "Public Square." The ordinance reads in part: "Whereas the parcel of land has been for more than 100 years set apart for public use, and has been beautified as a town park, but has never received a distinctive name:

AND WHEREAS, the said land was donated for this purpose in 1832 by two of the earliest settlers, the larger owner being Rev. David Barclay who in 1819 had purchased by deed, 327 acres of land which comprises the original site of Punxsutawney:

AND WHEREAS it is eminently proper that the keen foresight and generous impulse of the donor of the gift should be fittingly recognized by the community which for a century has enjoyed and taken pride in this beautiful property:

THEREFORE be it ordained and enacted—" that the above name be affixed to the property.

Ordinance No. 338 licensed photographers in the Borough. It was amended by Ordinance No. 401 on December 6, 1937.

Ordinance No. 339, passed September 7, 1933, regulated erection and maintenance of signs over, across, or upon walks and driveways. This ordinance was amended by Ordinance No. 399 on April 5, 1937.

Ordinance No. 348, passed December 4, 1933, prohibited displaying of groceries, provisions, fruit, etc. outside the store buildings or on streets or sidewalks. It also prohibited dumping waste on streets, and storing of old cars, wagons, scrap, and junk at any place in the Borough which might affect the health, beauty, comfort, or safety of the neighborhood.

Resolution No. 376, passed August 5, 1935, requested a vote at the Fall election, on the question



of Sunday Movies. At this election, a majority voted for Sunday Movies.

Ordinance No. 433, passed April 7, 1941 regulated parking on certain streets, authorizing parking meters therefor. This marked the introduction of parking meters in the Borough.

Ordinance No. 438, passed June 7, 1943, provided for the protection of the public health; defined public or common nuisances; provided regulations for their control and abatement; and provided for enforcement of the ordinance. This ordinance was amended on December 6, 1943, by Ordinance No. 440.

Ordinance No. 439 is the Borough Curfew Ordinance. It prohibits any child under the age of 17, unless accompanied by parent or guardian, to be on the highways, in the park, or in any other public place in the Borough between the hours of 11:00 P. M. and 5:00 A. M. The ordinance also sets forth the duties of parents or legal custodians. The purpose of this ordinance, which was passed August 9, 1943, was to reduce juvenile delinquency then prevailing and "growing to an alarming extent."

Ordinance No. 445, passed October 1, 1945, approved Assurances by the Borough pursuant to the requirements of the various acts passed by the Congress of the United States relating to Flood Control. This act provides for the building of Flood Walls and Dikes, with the Borough maintaining the dikes, walls, and appurtenances including the pumping plant after completion of the project.

Ordinance No. 447 was to increase Borough indebtedness to pay its share of the Flood Control Project. This ordinance was passed January 24, 1946.

A Resolution, passed September 12, 1946, increased taxes to permit buying of new fire equipment since the old was declared dangerous to the public welfare, if used any more. At the next election this resolution was voted on and passed.

Ordinance No. 451 approved plans of the United States War Department for Flood Protection, and authorized the making of a contract with the Water and Power Resources Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the sharing of land damage costs. This ordinance was passed December 9, 1946.

A resolution giving the right-of-way for Unit one of the Flood Control Project to the United States of America was passed at a special meeting on July 11, 1947.

Ordinance No. 461, passed August 4, 1947, provided for additional parking meters.

Ordinance No. 464, passed March 1, 1948, provided for the levy, assessment, and collection of a tax for general borough purposes, on the admission to amusements within the Borough of Punxsutawney. The ordinance requires amusement permits to be issued. The tax is at one cent on each ten cents of the price charged for the amusement.

A resolution passed December 6, 1948 approved the general plan of installation by B. & O. Railroad, for flashers for its Findley and Front Street crossings.

Ordinances No. 470, passed March 7, 1949, provides for the levying and assessment of a tax for general borough purposes, upon the operation of music and juke boxes and pinball machines; provides for the collection thereof; and prescribes penalties for non-payment.

The above chronologically arranged ordinances, resolutions, and acts serve to give a fairly complete picture of the social "growing up" of the Borough of Punxsutawney to the present day.

Today the Borough of Punxsutawney is governed by the Chief Burgess and two members of Council from each of the respective six wards, each of whom is elected by the people as prescribed by the General Borough Code.

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## Punxsutawney's 1949 Official Family



Seated: Arthur E. Kromer, President; Mrs. Mary L. Means, Secretary; Orvis C. Hoffman, M. E. Mogle, George Crissman, J. Edward Doran, Harry Lattimer. Standing: J. Eugene McCreight, Treasurer; Robert M. Morris, Solicitor; John C. Shermer, Burgess; Walter G. Means, Street Commissioner; Walter Zimmerman, Borough Engineer; Fred R. Chambers, Alonzo Zeitler, Eugene P. Curry, Frank C. Davis, Earl H. Brennan, John G. Handel.



# MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Edited by DAVID McLAUGHLIN

A list of the Borough's present officers together with a brief summary of their duties follows:

Burgess—John C. Shermer

Duties—to preserve order, enforce ordinance and regulations, hear complaints, remove nuisances, grant licenses, and impose fines and penalties.

President of Council—Arthur E. Kromer

Duties—to preside over meetings.

Constable—Guy Graffius

Duties—to enforce borough laws, regulations, and ordinances.

Borough Police Chief—Henry Hilton

Duties—to enforce borough laws, regulations, and ordinances, and preserve the peace.

Street Commissioner—Walter G. Means

Duties—to enforce regulations and ordinances relating to streets, alleys, sidewalks, etc.

Auditors—Chester T. Kuntz, G. Clyde Blose, Thomas D. Jenkins.

Duties—to audit, adjust, and settle accounts of the tax collector and Borough officers.

Secretary—Mary L. Means

Duties—to attend all meetings, keep minutes, transcribe by-laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances into books kept for the purposes.

Treasurer—J. E. McCreight

Duties—to keep account of just receipts and disbursements, and to report monthly the amount of money on hand.

Solicitor—Robert M. Morris

Duties—to supervise all law matters.

Borough Engineer—Walter Zimmerman

Duties—surveying, etc.

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## The History of the Punxsutawney Police Department

In 1850 Punxsutawney was organized as a borough with Tom McKee as first burgess and John McCoy as constable. The population at that time consisted of about one hundred persons. Until 1880, the constables enforced the law. The period from 1880 until 1890 showed the greatest increase in population. The need for police protection, therefore, became greater at this time.

During the 1880 period, Peter Stockdale, Sr., served as night policeman. Later William Holliway and Joe Gray acted as guardians of the peace.

It was not until the term of D. S. Altman, 1890-1894, that the town boasted of an individual that had the title of "Chief of Police." He was Clayton E. Palmer, and the council approved the recommendation of Burgess Altman that he be named for the office.

Following is an article, concerning the appointment of Clayton E. Palmer as Chief of Police, which appeared in the "This Day in Spirit Files" column "Forty-four Years Ago", on Tuesday, March 8, 1949.

"C. E. Palmer, who was elected to his fourteenth term as Chief of Police of Punxsutawney Monday night, celebrated the event by entertaining the members of the council and city officials at a dinner which was served in the Elks' Rooms by Chef H. E. Beatty, after the adjournment of council."

During Chief Palmer's many years as Chief of Police, he had many hazardous and exciting experiences. Following is an account of one of the most dangerous as it appeared in the *Punxsutawney Spirit* in these early days.

"Two negroes stole some clothing from Morris's Clothing Store, and when Chief of Police Clayton E.

Palmer went in search of them, he found them at the station on board an outbound train. As he was in the act of making the arrest, one of them pulled a 38 calibre revolver and shot him, the bullet striking the officer near the corner of the mouth on the right side, passing down along the jawbone and lodging in the fleshy part of the neck. The negroes left the train and fled. They were pursued by a posse of armed men, who, after an hour's hot chase, succeeded in capturing one of the negroes, and an hour later the other one gave up, after making a heroic effort to escape.

"A mob of 500 excited people, armed with shot-guns, revolvers, and clubs, awaited the arrival of the posse with the prisoners, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the two negroes, who pleaded for mercy, were lodged in the lock-up without being torn to pieces, they having been knocked down several times with clubs and pounded on the heads with guns. The negro identified by the wounded policeman as being the one who did the shooting gave his name as Robert Scott and residence as Frederick Hill, Va., and the other one, who was shot in the back and hand, said his name was Linn Harris and lived at Lynchburg, Va. They said they came to Punxsutawney three days ago from Gallitzin, Pa. Palmer's wounds, though serious, will not likely prove fatal unless blood poisoning sets in. The ball has not been removed. Threats of a lynching in town to-night caused the authorities to station a half-dozen extra policemen about the lock-up."

Below is an article, taken from the Tuesday, October 24, 1911, *Punxsutawney Spirit*, which proves that the burgesses of yesteryear had one of the same prob-





PUNXSUTAWNEY POLICE FORCE (1949). Seated: Guy Graffius, Henry B. Hilton, Chief; Evor Griffith. Standing: David Sankey, Gust Schwitzer, John VanDyke.

lems which still troubles our present burgess during the month of October.

"Tuesday, October 31, 1911, being Halloween, and proper time for the loosing of that joyous spirit which leads life and mirth to all occasions.

"Therefore do I, P. O. Freas, Chief Burgess of the borough of Punxsutawney, on this twenty-fourth day of October, proclim that: On said evening this municipality will be run on the strictly 'open door policy' in so far as the dictates of decency permit, and that the keys of the town will be distributed among the townspeople and strangers so that they may enjoy without stint the revelries of the night." P. O. FREAS

During the term of Burgess Freas, 1910-1914, Milton Wall worked as extra policeman, and Michael Gaynor worked as a full time night policeman in the West End.

During the term of Burgess Noah M. Treharne, 1918-1922, Clayton E. Palmer remained Chief of Police with Andrew Jacobs and Roy Dowdell as patrolmen. Scott Coble, Cris Stamler, and Robert Collins did the extra work. Roy Dowdell became Chief of Police during the administration of Burgess Treharne, 1918-1922.

It was during the term of Burgess William C. Tibby, 1922-1926, that Henry B. Hilton, who had come to Punxsutawney with the original Troop D of the State

Police, became Chief of Police. He served four terms under Burgess William C. Tibby, two terms under Burgess George Hughes, and is now serving under our present Burgess, John C. Shermer.

Patrolmen who have served under Chief Hilton are: Joe Tyger, Harry Suthard, Harold Taylor, John Wetzel, Evor Griffith, Robert Collins, Guy Graffius, Gust Schwitzer, John VanDyke, David Sankey, and William Decker.

It was during the term of Burgess William C. Tibby, 1938-1942, that the State Legislature, on July 1, 1941, passed the Civil Service Law for the police force. This bill, briefly, provided that all men in police service in boroughs with three or more officers at the time of passage of the act should be retained as civil service employees and that they could be removed from office only by bringing charges of incompetency against them. Burgess Tibby's force, it was evident, was here to stay.

Since the introduction of the civil service law for the police, much of the element of politics has been eliminated. Burgess John C. Shermer, the borough's present chief executive official, is privileged to make appointments to the police force only from the list of eligibles secured by conducting an examination for applicants for positions on the force. If this list is exhausted and there is need for more officers, temporary appointments may be made, but men thus



named must confirm their appointments at the next examination conducted by the civil service board.

The members of the present police force, serving under Burgess John C. Shermer and Chief of Police Henry B. Hilton, are as follows: Evor Griffith, Guy Graffius, Gust Schwitzer, John VanDyke, and David Sankey.

The Police Department's newest piece of equipment is the two-way radio police car.

In October of 1948, the first Police School was established in Punxsutawney, under the sponsorship of the Public Service Institute, Dept. of Public Instruction, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Courses available to those who wish to attend are: Basic Police Procedure, Advanced Police Procedure, Technical Police Procedure, and various Refresher Courses. Weekly class sessions of three hours each are held in the Punxsutawney National Bank Building.



## Punxsutawney Fire Department

Compiled by ROBERT WEAVER

### CENTRAL FIRE COMPANY

The first equipment for fire-fighting purposes, purchased in the borough consisted of a number of grapple-hooks, buckets, and ladders. The date of purchase cannot be given, but it seems that this equipment served the borough until after the Big Fire of June 1879. This fire showed the need of better equipment.

A Babcock Chemical Extinguisher was then purchased for the borough. William Torrence, who was chosen chief in 1879, served until 1886. All citizens were a part of the company. In the fall of 1888, the Punxsutawney Water Company completed the laying of its lines and the town had fifteen fire plugs. It was now necessary to purchase a hose cart and a reel of hose. This apparatus furnished excellent service for the town.

A new company was organized with Harry Evans, Chief, in charge and L. R. Huth as assistant. This company fought two of our great fires, those of 1900 and 1903 and served until March 17, 1907, when Lindsey was incorporated with Punxsutawney. At this time the name of Central Fire Department was adopted. On January 30, 1908, under the influence of Cloy Duff and John S. Thomas, the first secretary to keep correctly the minutes of the company, Carl Jordan was elected Chief of the Fire Company and Cad Rowan, treasurer.

The earliest recorded ordinance regarding the Fire Departments of the borough is ordinance No. 140, which was passed on September 14, 1909. This ordinance provides for the organization and government

of the Fire Company. As an amendment to ordinance No. 140, the following was passed by the council on March 10, 1919: A salary of fifty cents per hour was to be paid to each fireman for his services. This time was to be registered from the time he left the Municipal Building until he returned after the fire.

The present equipment which is very modern consists of a new 1948 1,000 gallon La France combination pumper and hose truck, and a 1936 hook and ladder truck with a 60 foot reach. The company also has a squad car and hose wagon. Its present company chief is Mr. Fred Chambers.

### LINDSEY FIRE COMPANY

The first meeting to organize the Lindsey Fire Department was held in September, 1901. The three companies which were formed are as follows: Lindsey Hose Company No. 1, Lindsey Hose Company No. 2, and Lindsey Hook and Ladder Company. The company disbanded in 1909, but was reorganized in 1913. After the consolidation of Lindsey and Punxsutawney Boroughs, the three afore-mentioned departments were combined into the Lindsey Fire Company, February 5, 1913.

The present equipment of the Lindsey Fire Company includes a 500 gallon pumper with a 200 gallon booster. This truck is a 1937 model Ford. It also has a 1913 La France—750 gallon pumper, which is still in use. The Lindsey Company will acquire a new truck in 1949. The present chief of Lindsey Fire Company is Mr. Andrew Zinzella.



## ELK RUN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

The Elk Run Volunteer Fire Company was organized in January, 1922, by nearly one hundred citizens of the Second Ward, with the following officers: President, James Padden; Vice-President, W. A. Stokes; Secretary, Robert Morgan; Treasurer, Fred Nollen.

Meetings were held for some time in the Gutelius Store. That same year the company purchased from George W. Stokes one of the best sites in Second Ward on Elk Run Avenue. No funds were available for a building and meetings were held in the McKean Harl Planing Mill until the Spring of 1924, when through the financial aid of Burgess W. C. Tibby a one-story building was erected on the lot owned by the company at a cost of \$600. This building allowed room for the International Chemical Truck formerly in service at West End Fire Company.

The company was chartered in 1927; that same year it was necessary to add a second story to the building.

Room was thus made for the American La France Chemical and Hose Truck, which the borough had recently purchased for use. These alterations in the building, which were made at an expense of over \$1,000, provide a meeting room on the second floor. This room is also used as the Election House of the Second Ward, Second Precinct, as the meeting place of the American Legion Drum Corps, and of the Elk Run Volunteer Fire Company Boys' Band, which this company has sponsored.

Elk Run has at the present time (1949), a new 500 gallon American La France Pumper and a new 1,000 gallon combination pumper and hose truck which was bought in 1948. The present chief of the Elk Run Company is Mr. Paul Grube.

Each of the three companies has a membership of 45, of whom 25 are regularly paid members. The three companies have a reserve list of 36, each company has its own chief. Mr. Fred Chambers is the head of all the companies at this time (1949).

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## Street Commissioner

The duties of the street commissioner are as follows:

To keep all borough streets in repair.

To build all borough streets that are to be improved.

To build all sewers and maintain them.

To look after all borough equipment used by the Street Department.

To supervise the repair of all borough buildings.

To maintain the city park.

To reset all meters and signposts, and to paint and repair all sign and meter posts.

To supervise and look after airport and airport farm.

Included also in the work of the Street Department is the resurfacing of all alleys. In most towns this work is contracted to outside concerns.

New equipment, an Elgin sweeper and a truck, were purchased in 1948. The city expects to purchase a new grader this year (1949). Two new streets will be completed in 1949.

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## The Municipal Airport

The municipal airport of Punxsutawney is located in Bell Township. The airport, which covers about one hundred and twenty acres, was purchased by Punxsutawney from Mr. O. P. Grube. This purchase was made on Feb. 20, 1945. The airport commission is as follows: George Hughes, Chairman; Walter J. Zimmerman, Secretary; John C. Shermer, Walter G. Means, J. Eugene McCreight, Leonard T. Staples, Arthur E. Kromer.

At the present time Donald Tyger is the operator of the airport. Since there are no airlines that pass through the airport, it is used mostly for private flying. The airport contains an office, which is located in one of the two hangars constructed there, and a gasoline pump for refueling the airplanes.

Some airshows have been held at the airport. These have been very successful.

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## Barclay Square

Barclay Square, originally known as the Public Square, is located near the center of the business district of Punxsutawney and is 212 by 320 feet. It was one of the eight squares in Punxsutawney in 1821 and was donated to the citizens of Punxsutawney as a public park by Doctor Jenks and Reverend David Barclay by deed, dated September 25, 1832. For nearly three quarters of a century, this square was an

unsightly common, which served as a pasture lot for the town cows, a circus and baseball ground, a place for political meetings, and a meeting place for patent medicine fakers. In 1900, E. N. Wehrle and others undertook to beautify the park by public subscription, and were making some progress, when in 1901, William H. Rogers, the leading spirit of the Punxsutawney Iron Company, took the matter in his own



hands, employed a competent landscape gardner, and by the fall of 1902, had transformed the old Public Square into a beautiful park.

In 1917, a fund was secured for the purpose of erecting a flag pole and buying a flag. On July 4, 1917, the flag was raised amidst much ceremony.

In 1928 the name Barclay Square was affixed by Borough Ordinance No. 288.

The Memorial Band Stand located in the park was erected in 1932 with subscriptions raised during World War I. It is in honor of those men and women who answered the call to arms for the defense of their country during the Revolutionary War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World War I. The citizens of Punxsutawney had raised approximately \$2,500 to build the stand. Harry Philliber donated a ton of cement, and the stones were collected by friends of Mr. Edward Baker and were brought to Punxsutawney free. Eagles, donated by Mrs. Nancy Robinson, adorn the stand. The architect was John G. Zeedick.

Located in the park are many beautiful trees, some of which are memorials. Two of these beautiful trees are Japanese Ginkgo Trees which are very rare. Two cannons, dating back to 1861, adorn entrances to the park.



A view of the Park in Barclay Square. In the background can be seen a portion of the Memorial Band Stand. Two trees planted as memorials to individuals are shown at the left center.

An Indian mill stone, set into the ground near the Mahoning Street side of the Square, is of interest. At the ceremony, July 26, 1936 when the stone was dedicated, Chief Windsor H. Pierce of Corydon, New York, said in his address that the mill belonged to a Mohawk Tribe which had been located near here and later conquered by the Senecas. Four other Indians, besides Chief Pierce, were present at the ceremony which was in charge of Lee S. North.

## LOCAL BRANCHES OF STATE DEPARTMENTS

### Pennsylvania Department of Highways

#### Maintenance Unit — Jefferson County

In March 1937 ground was broken for the erection of a new Pennsylvania Department of Highways Office and Maintenance Building at Fairview, one quarter mile east of the Punxsutawney Borough line, adjacent to State Highway Route 36. The general contractor for this construction was Means Brothers of Punxsutawney. Excellent progress was made and the work was completed in November, 1937. The building was approved and accepted by the Department, and personnel and

equipment moved in early in 1938. The building is one story, brick construction, and contains 22,178 square feet of floor space. It consists of a main office, equipment storage room, repair shop, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, paint shop and storage room with heating plant and tool storage room in the basement. The grounds are landscaped and planted with laurel and present a very pleasing appearance, particularly during the time the laurel is in bloom.

This is a county unit and is responsible for maintenance and snow removal on 576 miles of State Highways and 296 bridges in Jefferson County. Punxsutawney is situated in the center of a network of improved roads. Six main traffic arteries enter the town from all directions, as well as numerous secondary roads carrying local traffic and farm products and many school buses. The economic welfare of this community, as in many others, is largely dependent on the efficiency and capacity of its transportation system.

The highway plant was brought to this area largely through the efforts of Charles J. Margiotti who was serving as Attorney General. Currently (1949) C. R. Hutchison is the county superintendent of highways with Burt S. Burns and Leroy Rhodes as assistant superintendents.



Pennsylvania Department of Highways Maintenance Building. An average of 150 men are employed and are responsible for the maintenance of 576 miles of highway in Jefferson County, under all kinds of weather conditions.



# The Pennsylvania State Police

Created by law in 1905, the Pennsylvania State Police Force was originated, primarily, for the protection of rural communities, enforcement of the criminal laws, and cooperation with other state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies. In the beginning, the State Force consisted of 223 officers and men, who were assigned to four separate troops on December 15, 1905.

Colonel John C. Groome, of Philadelphia, was appointed by Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker as the first Superintendent of the new Force. The Governor directed that the Force should be organized strictly on the basis of merit and divorced from all political influence and interference. Since that time every Governor of the State of Pennsylvania has maintained this policy. Each member of the Force is prohibited from engaging in any political activity with the sole exception of casting his individual ballot. The methods of the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Royal Northwest Mounted Police were studied by Colonel Groome when he visited both Europe and Canada in making a survey of these world famous organizations. The best features were incorporated in the formation of the Pennsylvania State Police. In this manner the first state-wide, uniformed force in America was created.

Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, along with Greensburg, Wyoming, and Reading, pioneered as the selected locations for the four Troop Headquarters in the State. At first adequate quarters could not be

found in Punxsutawney so the Troop moved into the National Hotel. They were under the command of Captain J. F. Robinson, Lieutenant H. F. Egle, and First Sergeant George F. Lumb, (who later became Deputy Superintendent of the organization), and a complement of 47 Troopers; however, complete uniforms, arms, horses, and equipment were not received until March 1, 1906. Upon receipt of this equipment it was apparent that the quarters in the National Hotel would not suffice. Therefore, Troop "D" moved into the old exhibition building at the fairgrounds near where the present Armory Building is now located. This exhibition building was of flimsy structure and ill prepared to keep out winter winds and cold rains. The Troopers did the best they could for the old building and made it livable even though not comfortable.

The law-abiding people in the state and of the press were, for the most part, in favor of the new police organization; but, as a large number of the miners and other daily workers were not familiar with the desired purpose of the new organization, they were prejudiced at first and called the State Policemen "Pennypacker's Cossacks." During the ensuing six or eight months the members of Troop "D" met with considerable opposition from various people in the community. Meantime, history was in the making. Daily patrols were established which resulted in a country store robber being picked up here; a stabber of a night watchman there; again a



Members of headquarters detachment Troop C, Pennsylvania State Police, Lieut. Frank L. Garnow, commanding



molester of women; a carrier of concealed weapons, etc. Daily the officers were dealing with the unassimilated foreign element, teaching by small but oft repeated object lessons that a new gospel was abroad in the State and Jefferson County.

The tragedy at Florence, near Punxsutawney, which occurred on September 2, 1906, was a turning point in gaining the respect of the local people, even though it was costly in life and limb to several members of the new force. As the result of several murderous cutting affrays that had occurred in the general vicinity of Punxsutawney, Sergeant Logan was assigned to investigate. He received a tip that a gang of desperadoes and cut throats had a hangout in a wooden building near the powerhouse in Florence, Pa. At this building a terrific battle was staged which necessitated calling for reinforcements and the final dynamiting of the structure before the criminals were captured. But, in the arrest of these murderers and cut-throats, the State Police also paid a heavy toll. Privates Zehringer and Henry lost their lives, while Chambers, Mullen, and Logan were badly wounded.

Somewhat later, the intelligent English speaking miner folk around Punxsutawney knew themselves indebted to the State Police for an even greater rescue. Smallpox broke out among the foreign element in the mining village of Rossiter, Penna. When health officers undertook to quarantine the pest stricken houses, not only did they meet resistance from the inmates but they also encountered the enraged hostility of the entire neighborhood. The State Police were asked to take over. A strong detail was immediately sent to the town, where a vigorous quarantine was maintained for ten days. The Troopers, in addition to preserving law and order, saw that food and medical service were provided for the stricken people. Without the State Police assistance, beyond the slightest doubt the disease might have swept throughout the countryside.

In other respects the Troop "D" men sold themselves and the State Police Force to the people of Jefferson County by organizing baseball and football teams which competed with the local teams, and which were coached by Dr. Joseph Robinson, a local dentist and a former All-American guard on the University of Pennsylvania team. They also went so far as to have their own dramatic club and invited the townsfolk to take part in several home talent plays which were greeted with great enthusiasm and went a long way toward establishing friendly relationship with the people of Punxsutawney. A check made of a State Police Program for a home talent play called "The Girl I Left Behind Me," put on at the Jefferson Theatre on April 2nd, and 3rd, 1907, included the following names of local people who took part: Mary H. Williams, Mayme Murray, Ollie Robinson, Mary Rinn, Cuba Rodkey, and North McCreight.

It was such endeavors on the part of the State Police that endeared them to the people of Punxsutawney and Jefferson County during the next five years. This is further attested by the fact that more than 15 members of Troop "D" married local girls and in many instances established their homes in Punxsutawney and Jefferson County. The following

former members of Troop "D", who were assigned to Punxsutawney during the first five years of the organization, are known to have married local girls and there are no doubt many more whose names escape us at the present: Henry Hilton-Cele Wolf; Olaf Carlton-Gene Smith; Ed Baker-Edith Gray; John Walsh-Mary Sewanick; Tom Casey-Ollie Robinson; Francis Grey-Mildred Bidwell; Claude Masters-Edna Ehrenfield; Ben Rothstein-Mary Williams; Nathan Kohut-Eva Stiver; Joseph McIlvain-Mary Lanzendorfer; George Wagner-Emma Gay; Richard Chambers-Mary Myers; William Hess-Anna Drosety; Louis Lardin-Edna Evans and Al Gutberlet-Rose Phillips. Four of the original State Police members are still residents of Punxsutawney: Henry Hilton, Ed Baker, John E. Walsh, and Albert Gutberlet.

By 1911 the members of the Force had made for themselves and their organization a name which was second to that of no other police force in the world. Realizing the value of such a police organization the State of New York later passed legislation that created a similar State Police Force which was patterned after that of Pennsylvania.

Even though Troop "D" remained in the same building at the Punxsutawney Fairgrounds for five years, no effort was made to improve their quarters other than what the men did for themselves. Other communities, realizing the protection afforded by having a State Police Troop in their locality, made attractive offers to have the Troop Headquarters located in their town. Butler, Pennsylvania, was desirous of securing "D" Troop Headquarters and realizing that the men and officers were dissatisfied with the quarters in Punxsutawney, agreed to construct a building to State Police specifications if the quarters were moved to their city. This arrangement was accepted by Colonel Groome who ordered the transfer on February 26, 1911. With manifest sorrow Punxsutawney heard the news. The Punxsutawney Spirit wrote editorially: "Lock the stable, the horse has been stolen. It is a mistake to give the Superintendent power to change the location of barracks. The money spent in providing an efficient police system comes back to the Commonwealth a hundred fold by the decreased cost of the administration of justice. The barracks are not what they might be, and all that is needed is for someone in authority to indicate to the Chamber of Commerce just what improvements are desired. The people of Punxsutawney, particularly the business men, want the barracks to remain here where they belong, and are prepared to do anything within reason."

During the ensuing years Punxsutawney was policed from other State Police localities or from a local substation with three to five men until 1938 after the consolidation of the State Police and the State Highway Patrol. It was then through the efforts of the Punxsutawney Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Charles J. Margiotti, the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and many local business men that Punxsutawney was again chosen as a State Police Headquarters.

Captain A. J. Oldham with a complement of 49 men moved into Punxsutawney on October 1, 1938, and established Troop "C" Headquarters in a building, 800 East Mahoning St., which was purchased by



the Punxsutawney Chamber of Commerce. Substations were likewise established at DuBois, Clearfield, Clarion, Ridgway, Kane, and Smethport, Penna. The Troop has since functioned without any major changes except that on November 1, 1940, Captain Oldham was relieved by Lieutenant Frank L. Garnow, who is the present Commanding Officer. The personnel of the Troop has since been increased to 67 men and another substation established at Tionesta, Pennsylvania.

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## State Clinic

(Masonic Bldg., N. Jefferson St., Punxsutawney, Pa.)

The various services of the State Clinic are held under the auspices of the State Department of Health, Harrisburg, Pa.

*Tuberculosis Clinic.* May 4, 1921 the Tuberculosis Clinic was started. June 1, 1938 Dr. H. B. King was appointed clinician and still is. First State nurse was Miss Lucy Osler, R. N.; she served for 18 years. Mrs. Agnes Maloney gave aid in clinics to Miss Osler.

*Work or Services.* The Tuberculosis Clinic works to control the spread of tuberculosis by arranging for the care of the patient in the home, his transfer to a sanitarium, and the examination of the contacts. The contacts. The clinic was held on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 9:00 A. M. to 12:00 Noon. The clinic is held on the second and the fourth Tuesday, 9:00 A. M. to noon.

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## VENEREAL DISEASE

Venereal Disease Clinic at Punxsutawney was the twenty-eighth to be placed in operation and this was during the month of January 1919. Who was clinician from 1919 to 1921 is not known. F. C. Smathers, M. D., was clinician from May 15, 1921 to 1923. Following him in 1923 F. D. Pringle, M. D., was appointed as acting clinician in the Clinic. Dr. Pringle, at that time was County Medical Director for Jefferson County. It was closed about 1927 and reopened September 10, 1936. The clinician appointed at that time was Francis J. Trunzo. He served until December 31, 1946, at which time Dr. S. Meigs Beyer was appointed clinician.

### *Purpose of service:*

1. The relief of the physician from the almost compulsory burden of caring for numerous charity patients suffering from Genito-Urinary and Venereal Diseases. Clinic and home supervision for instruction of patients and contacts.

2. The prompt and efficient care of such patients free of charge who otherwise would neglect their condition with serious results.

3. The betterment of the general health of the community by diminishing and, if possible, eliminating the menace of transmission of the serious ven-

ereal diseases by thus reaching and rendering innocuous as rapidly as possible all such cases in the State.

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## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTERS

Child Health Conferences are held 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 1 to 4 P. M. Dr. D. G. Mankovich has been the clinician since 1937 and had served in the Centers sometime previous to his appointment by the Secretary of Health.

Miss Lucy Osler, R. N., served in the Child Health Center from 1924 to 1935. She was followed by Miss Ruth Nollen, R. N., Miss Nina McDowell, R. N., Mrs. Twilla Bottenhorn, R. N., and lastly Miss Blanche Chapman, R. N.

### *Purpose of Service:*

Child Health Centers—

Keeping the Well Baby Well.

Getting the Toddler Ready for School.

Classes for expectant mothers.

These services have been sponsored by the Beta Phi Zeta Chi Sorority.

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## ORTHOPEDIC (CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S CLINIC)

Clinics are held in the spring and fall for children from birth to 21 years for care of child and the care and use of appliances. Dr. Paul Steele, orthopedist, of Pittsburgh, is in charge of the clinic and has the assistance of physicians of the county in its operation. Blanche Chapman, of Punxsutawney; Twila Bottenhorn, of Brookville, and Janet Kruzalak, of Sykesville, State nurses, assist Dr. Steele, and Mary Morgan, clerk of the State clinic in Punxsutawney, serves as clerk. From 75 to 125 crippled children are examined at the clinics.

Miss Willette Craft served for a while as clerk.

Local agencies that aid are—

Spirit Publishing Company

Punxsutawney Post Office

H. Quay Morrison and Jordan's Funeral Home—  
provide chairs for Orthopedic Clinics

Local service clubs and church groups.

Adrian Hospital

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## State Liquor Store

(3302)

The Pennsylvania Liquor Store (3302) was established January 3, 1934, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, after the repeal of prohibition in 1933. During the flood of 1936, there was about a foot of water in the store, but most of the merchandise was salvaged. The store had previously been located in the Park Building and in the County National Bank Building. Its present location (1949) is the A. B. Kaufman Building, 220 East Mahoning Street, and Stuart Shaffer is the manager (1949).



# FEDERAL AGENCIES



THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE. An average of 4,500 pieces of first class mail is handled daily. A heavy volume of parcel post and second class mail is also handled.

## Post Offices of Punxsutawney and Clayville\*

The Punxsutawney Post Office was established in 1826, under John Quincy Adams. Charles R. Barclay, who kept a general store on the corner of Front and Main Streets, was the first postmaster and in his store was the first post office. The office was later located in William Davis' store, which was on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Gilpin Streets; it was later moved into what is now the Jones Building, then to the Rosenthal Building, and in 1914, to its present location on North Findley Street.

In 1935, Punxsutawney became a first-class post office. In 1936, an air mail route was opened through here. This route has been in existence ever since.

The office is open for dispatch of mail day and night. A great amount of mail is handled by the postoffice here on holidays. During the week before Christmas, 1948, the post office handled about 850,000 pieces of mail. Otherwise, about 4,500 pieces of first-class mail are handled daily.

Paul Barclay, the present postmaster, was appointed by Civil Service in 1940.

The present department heads of the post office are as follows: Assistant postmaster, Mr. Ralph Gall; Superintendent of Mails, Clark G. Lyke.

The postal service personnel here includes:

- 14 clerks
- 8 city carriers
- 1 parcel post carrier
- 5 rural carriers
- 3 custodian helpers
- 4 substitutes
- 1 special delivery carrier
- 3 Star Route carriers which distribute mail within a radius of 25 miles.

The postmasters of Punxsutawney follow:  
Charles R. Barclay, appointed February 23, 1826.

John W. Jenks, appointed December 15, 1828.

David Barclay, appointed November 2, 1830.

Charles R. Barclay, appointed December 21, 1831.

John Hunt, appointed October 17, 1837.

James McConaughy, appointed February 17, 1839.

John R. Rees, appointed October 29, 1843.

John M. McCoy, appointed August 6, 1845.

Thomas I. Mitchell, appointed November 13, 1849.

Thomas McKee, appointed June 6, 1853.

Andrew J. Johnston, appointed March 19, 1861.

William Campbell, appointed August 20, 1863.

William Davis, appointed August 13, 1864.

Homer C. Bair, appointed April 20, 1885.

John Hastings, appointed July 2, 1887.

William C. Torrence, appointed April 16, 1889.

Charles A. Jenks, appointed February 16, 1894.

David M. McQuown, appointed February 11, 1898.

Sidney S. Smith, appointed March 7, 1906.

Henry G. Teagarden, appointed November 22, 1910.

William N. Carter, appointed June 9, 1915.

S. A. Caylor, appointed April 1, 1925.

Arthur Eberhart, appointed April 1, 1933.

Paul Barclay, appointed April 10, 1933.

Clayville did not have a post office until January 24, 1882, when through Honorable J. U. Gillespie, it was established. Since there was already a Clayville post office in the state, the local office was called Lindsey, after Mr. Gillespie's son. Lindsey's postmasters are as follows:

John W. Parsons, appointed January 24, 1882.

William M. Donahue, appointed October 9, 1893.

William B. Sutter, appointed September 15, 1897.

One June 30, 1908, the Lindsey Post Office was discontinued and made a substation of Punxsutawney. the last postmaster of Lindsey was W. B. Sutter.

## Air Mail Pick-Up

Air Mail in Punxsutawney became a reality on January 2, 1940, when the first pick-up occurred at the Grube air field at 9:30 A. M. There were thirty people present to witness the event; and, had it not been so cold, many more would probably have attended. There were 3,500 pieces of mail sent out on the first day. Because of the quantity of mail, it became necessary for the plane to land.

The route extended from Pittsburgh to Williamsport and served twenty-three intervening points twice daily until World War II, at which time four daily

\*Information from McKnight's *History of Jefferson County* and from Paul Barclay, Postmaster.



flights were inaugurated and continued until the service ended. Mr. Robert Brown, then manager of the Thrift Plan, received the first express to arrive by air.

C. W. Biggs was the first messenger to carry the mail from the Post Office to the Grube Airport and continued as messenger until August 15, 1945. Mrs. Hazel Mauk performed these duties until its close. In 1944 the pick-up station was transferred from the Grube Airport to the Earl North farm where it remains.

When the service first began, the messenger had to be governed by the time schedule, which incurred many a long wait. Later, radios, which were tuned to the plane and various stations, were installed in the messenger's car. These radios relieved the situation greatly, especially during the winter.

On one occasion the mail was lost from the plane in March and was not found until May. However, the mail was in perfect condition and was forwarded to its destination, Panama. At another time the mail pouch was lost from the container in the woods above Punxsutawney. The Boy Scouts were sent out to search for it and returned with it in less than one hour. The Scout Troop was served to a corn roast as a reward for their services.

The Air Mail Pick-up service ended on June 11, 1949.

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## Flood Control

On March 17, 1936, the Borough of Punxsutawney suffered a devastating flood which inundated the entire business section. Civil leaders immediately began a determined effort to secure a program of flood control for the Borough. Their efforts were climaxed when a House Appropriations bill passed on February 8, 1946, included a grant of \$556,000 for a flood control project in Punxsutawney. This action was quickly followed by the passing of a \$125,000 bond issue by the Borough of Punxsutawney on March 5, 1946. The bond issue was approved by a vote of 2218 to 102.

The Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, awarded a contract in the amount of \$496,968.00 to the Mede Construction Company of Devon, Chester County, Pa., for the construction of Unit I of the Punxsutawney Channel Improvement. This contract consisted of widening, deepening, and realigning the channel; relocation of sanitary sewers and sewer siphons; relocation of water line; and the protection of existing bridge piers and abutments. Work under this contract was started on May 9, 1946, and completed on May 17, 1947.

A second contract in the amount of \$94,093.50 for Unit 2 (Initial Work) was awarded to the Ruth Lumber & Supply Company of Scottdale, Pa. This unit consisted of relocation of sanitary sewers and the construction of a reinforced concrete pressure conduit 700 feet long for the control of Barrett Run. Work was started on December 17, 1947, and was completed on August 19, 1948.

A third contract for Unit 2, Section A, in the amount of \$998,765.00, was awarded to Mr. Homer

M. Ruth. This unit consisted of widening, deepening, and realigning the channel; relocating sanitary sewers; relocating water line; construction of dikes; and the construction of a sewage pumping station. Work was started on April 9, 1948, and completed on April 7, 1949.

The fourth and final contract was awarded to the Ruth Construction Company. This contract in the amount of \$1,190,086.50 is for Unit 2B and involves the widening, deepening, and realigning of the channel; construction of reinforced concrete flood walls; construction of dikes relocation of sanitary sewers; relocation of water line; and protection of existing bridge abutments and piers. Work was started on this Unit on February 10, 1949, and is scheduled to be completed in June, 1950.

The Punxsutawney Channel Improvement is designed to take care of 20% more water than in 1936 with the dikes and flood walls having a free-board of 2 feet.

The channel improvement begins at a point  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles downstream from the West End (Margiotti) Bridge and continues upstream through the heart of the Borough to a point 1000 feet above the mouth of Elk Run. The total length of the project is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

The Punxsutawney Project is being supervised by the Pittsburgh District, Corps of Engineers, Colonel F. H. Falkner, District Engineer. John C. Staples is resident engineer at the local office on Gilpin Street, having succeeded the late Edward J. Collins.

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"When I was young, you could not go into the stores and buy everything, so I went into my father's carpenter shop and made wagons, sleds, and ball bats for myself. Mother made balls for us at first, but I soon learned to make them myself. When I made a ball, I got an old gum shoe, an old boot, and an old wool sock. I cut the gum shoe into narrow strips, wound them into a ball, raveled out the sock, and wound that over the gum until it was as large as I wanted it. Then I cut a cover out of the boot leg and got a needle, some black patent thread and sewed the cover on myself. I sometimes put a cad bullet in the center to make them heavier. We made ball bats out of a piece of board. They were flat, not round as they are now."—John B. Bair.

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James St. Clair kept a hotel where the Park Building now is and had a pump and a large drinking trough on Penn Street in front of his hotel where we all went to get a drink of water. He set up a post at the corner of Mahoning and Penn Streets on which he put a fancy lantern in which he lighted a candle at night which drew attention to his hotel and illuminated the town.

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From 1881 until 1890 when the West End School was erected, the Thomas Korsmo home, 125 N. Main St., was used as the school for the West End district. Later the building was bought and remodeled by Daniel R. Davis.



## CHAPTER IV

# INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF PUNXSUTAWNEY INDUSTRY FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO THE PRESENT

It would be a tremendous undertaking to record in exact detail the interesting and varied industrial development our community has enjoyed. A wealth of natural resources mixed with a continuing supply of brawn and brains has been conducive to an ever-changing but continuous development of the industrial factor in this community's progress. If space permitted, the recording of a detailed history of each of these enterprises would be of great interest, but in this undertaking we must confine ourselves generally to a quick glance backward over the years of Punxsutawney's industrial progress.

In its most primitive state, industry is merely the converting of those things which one finds about him to his own use and the use of near neighbors. So it was when the Reverend David Barclay and Dr. John W. Jenks, his son-in-law, had completed their dwellings, they built first a grist mill on Elk Run at about its junction with the Mahoning. Later, near the same location, a saw-mill and tannery were established by the same men, probably about 1820. In 1815 Jacob Hoover purchased most of the land from the present Davis Goheen residence west to approximately the present borough limits and built his home of logs at the location of the "Old Gillespie Spring." By 1818 he had built a grist mill near the present location of the Star Broom Works, 105 South Main St. Later, he established a sawmill on Sawmill Run, and next he had a carding operation in connection with his grist mill. Thus, the very earliest industries of Punxsutawney were the sawing of timbers for the primitive homes, the grinding of the precious grain into flour for food, and the combing of wool in preparing it for the home spinning of yarn for the "homespun" that was these pioneers' clothing.

As man's labors progress and his methods improve, his industry develops so that he must seek markets to consume that which he produces in excess of his needs, so it was as a result of the natural abundance of pine, hemlock, and some hardwood varieties in lesser quantities, that the then broad avenues of the Mahoning Creek became the means of transporting the great logs to Pittsburgh. In 1830 over two million board feet were cut and rafted down to the Allegheny, and by 1854 it is estimated some 43 million board feet had been produced in the county. By an Act of the Assembly July 31, 1845, the Mahoning Navigation Company was created but no actual organization came about; however, under an Act of 1858 such an organization came into being. In 1808 the Big Mahoning was made a public highway from its mouth to the mouth of Canoe Creek. The Legislature, in 1817, appropriated \$800.00 for the purpose of removing obstructions on the Big Mahoning, and in 1835 the Big Mahoning Creek was declared a public highway from the mouth of Canoe Creek to the forks of Stump Creek. It took from five to seven days to reach Pittsburgh. The raftsmen's pay was

about ten dollars a trip. The return was made via "Walker's Hack."

Aside from the great lumber business, little was exported from Punxsutawney and vicinity for many years; however, while the population of deer was great, they were hunted in large numbers and their hams were cured, smoked, and sent on the rafts to Pittsburgh where they were purchased as a great delicacy, but this was purely an "in-the-home" industry and did not develop beyond the primitive stage.

From its founding until about 1880 Punxsutawney was nothing much more than a lazy village with only the Mahoning Creek and a few paths east, west, north, and south offering means of admission or exit. In 1860 the population was 415 souls; and the industry, with the exception of lumbering, did little more than supply these people their meager needs. However, in 1825, one John Fuller found coal on his land near Reynoldsville and apparently used it in the forge of his shop. By 1832, a negro, Charles Anderson, also known as "Yellow Charley," was mining and selling coal for household use near Brookville. Then about 1834, Obed Morris and John Hutchison mined coal in Young Township near Punxsutawney and the greater development of the community was assured but slow in progressing. In 1864, J. P. Leslie made the geological survey in the vicinity of Punxsutawney, which led to a rapid growth of this industry.

When the community was about to achieve a complete industrial change, its Main Street boasted the shops of some able and industrious craftsmen—tycoons of the workbench, proud of their skill and prouder yet of their will to produce. Of these men one of the most interesting and legendary was "Billy McKee." Have you ever glided back over the years on a "Billy McKee" rocker, or rested your weary body on one of his straight models? Well, there are many specimens of this man's work about, and one of your ancestors might have spun her yarn on a spinning wheel made by him. The heavy boots of the woodsman, as well as most other footwear, were built in the shops of J. G. Wilson, John C. Zeitler, Henry Ernst, and Henry Falkner. Jacob Zeitler made harness and saddles, and Philip Weaver fashioned wagons and sleighs. The leather so necessary in this work was prepared in local tanneries operated by James Torrence and J. G. McConnell. In addition to these particular trades, one could readily have many other of the necessary articles of furniture manufactured in the shops of such skilled cabinet makers as W. J. Drum, John Evans, R. R. Evans, and V. Snyder. Blacksmiths such as J. A. Minish and Hugh Dorning shod horses, made hinges, and fashioned of iron other necessities this little community of the 1880's demanded.



In 1882 the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron Company was organized and later headquarters were established here. In September 1883, the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad was completed from the North, and between 1898 and 1899 it was completed to Pittsburgh.

In May, 1887, the Berwind White Coal Mining Company opened an operation at Horatio and along with it came the Pennsylvania and Northwestern Railroad.

With this development of coal mining Punxsutawney was assured of transportation connections to all of the important centers of the United States, and her growth was assured. In fact, she had entered a new and greater era in her industrial development. The sleeping village was passing from adolescence to vigorous youth; and as in all America the real industrial development of our area has followed the coming of the "Iron Horse."

Natural gas was piped to Punxsutawney from a well drilled by the Mahoning Gas and Heat Company in 1884. The 674 citizens were benefited greatly by this enterprise located in Canoe Township, Indiana County, about three miles, "as the crow flies," from town. By 1887 the Punxsutawney Water Company was established and was offering "spigot water" to the householders of the town on the Big Mahoning.

In the meantime a man of great vision and keen business acumen, Obediah Nordstrom, had opened and was operating a woolen mill, as well as a distillery, at or about the site of the present Mahoning Valley Milling Company. A few years later, near his home a short distance west of the present "Electric Light Dam," the same man began to make the "Indiana Hill into bricks," a task he never completed, but Nordstrom bricks were good bricks; substantial buildings were constructed and many of our first brick streets were paved with them. Before long the Punxsutawney Brick Company was operating.

All the while this was going on in Punxsutawney, the Gillespie Brothers had sold the Clayville Wagon

and Carriage Manufactory to W. B. Sutter. In 1840, Jacob Hoover had built a foundry on the banks of Sawmill Run, a business which exists down to the present time, later being operated by G. W. Porter and presently by the genial and witty William Porter as the Star Iron Works. Soon that Scotch purveyor of wit, wisdom and solid, substantial boilers, William Allison, brought into being the Punxsutawney Boiler Works now operated by John Harvey, Jr.

The Punxsutawney Iron Furnace was built in 1897, and on September 29 it was lighted with a capacity of 250 tons of pig iron rolling out of the furnace. At that time there were 150 men employed, and the officers were: William A. Rogers, President; E. C. McKiblien, Secretary; and John H. Kennedy, Superintendent. It ran at capacity for many years, all the while the beautiful night glow of its furnaces radiated prosperity for many of our families.

In the years between 1888 and 1890 men of vision like Jacob L. Fisher and Doctor William F. Beyer, both men who knew a progressive community was a good place in which to live, were working to bring to Punxsutawney a new power—electricity. So it was that with local capital and local brains, the Jefferson Electric Company came into being. Punxsutawney was speeding beyond the gas-light days of the "Gay Nineties" almost before they were here. For a while the street lighting and trolley power was supplied separately by an operation fathered by J. E. Wilson. The Jefferson Electric Company's plant was located on the Southside property now owned by the Pennsylvania Electric Company. This latter concern, ever mindful of our industrial progress, at present supplies the electric power consumed by the community.

In 1902 the Punxsutawney Street Passenger Railway Company, an organization of 1892, was reorganized and renamed "The Jefferson Traction Company." In 1899 the original company had built a line to Adrian; in 1900 to Eleanora and to Reynoldsville in 1901. The reorganized company continued this expansion with lines to Walston in 1902, Sykesville in 1904, and to Big Run in 1906. By 1915 E. F. Kiser was President; D. H. Clark, Vice President; B. M. Clark, Secretary, and J. B. Phelan, Treasurer.

About 1908 the Eldred Window Glass Company moved from Eldred to Punxsutawney and a little later the Tibby-Brawner Bottling Works began operations.

The Clark Steel Hoop Mill commenced operations sometime in 1908, with L. L. Clark, President; E. C. McKiblien, Secretary; and J. A. Weber, Treasurer. With the continued growth of mining operations the Punxsutawney Foundry and Machine Company was founded by the late E. W. Robinson, and under that genial gentleman's direction it grew into a prosperous and reputable business. It was continued after his death by Mrs. Robinson who sold it in the early years of World War II to John M. Harvey who liquidated, and to Punxsutawney was lost a business where fine workmanship and skill were the rule and not the exception.



When the street cars came to Punxsutawney through the medium of the Jefferson Traction Company the citizens concluded that Punxsutawney had grown up. In the process of the evolution of transportation street cars here and in most communities have gone the way of the dodo. Here is shown a street car on the "city line," with George Speaker (deceased) standing on the step, and Roy Wood as the two-man operating crew. The year was about 1906.



Early in 1900 John A. Philliber came to Punxsutawney and established the Star Meat Market. Setting himself up as a purveyor of home-dressed meat, he established a small slaughterhouse near Sportsburg. Later, he moved his operation to the headwaters of Barrett Run, approximately where the present Peter Phillips residence is located. In 1904, with the aid of a group of local businessmen and some area butchers, he established the Punxsutawney Beef & Provision Company, a business now operating with a force of 175 employees.

In 1907 the sons of a sturdy German emigrant, who himself had been a driller of skill, established a partnership known as Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company. The partners, Orvis C. Hoffman and Leon H. Hoffman, had their first offices in the old Zeitler Homestead, which stood on the northeast corner of Penn and Mahoning Streets. Here they had a private telephone from the Waverly Hotel to summon them to the lobby of that pretentious establishment, so they might receive the calls coming in for them. In 1925 these sons of Philip Hoffman incorporated, and the business continues to be one of the community's leading employers.

As the early years of 1900 came and went, Punxsutawney gained in wealth, business, and population so that, when in 1910 "Uncle Sam" counted all his nieces and nephews, there were 9,058 people inhabitants of the borough.

In 1909 the United Textile Corporation of Allentown opened a silk mill, which continued to operate with some change in ownership until the middle thirties when it was closed and the Chamber of Commerce purchased the building.

When the First World War began in Europe, Punxsutawney was industrially mature and had a population of some 10,000. There were two breweries operating at that time—The Punxsutawney Brewery Company and the Elk Run Brewery Company. When the prosperity of the early twenties brought Volstead, these two fine plants closed, never to reopen, and somehow a change came over Punxsutawney. Industrially, it began to regress. The coal business slipped and with it the prosperity of our many sustaining plants. Some plants closed never to reopen; others struggled on, gasping their last after the crash of 1929 or going on to contribute to the welfare of the nation and prosperity to the community during the Second World War.

When the industrial activity of the First World War was expiring and sickness had attacked the coal industry, Punxsutawney began to inventory her natural resources. It was soon realized that a continuing prosperity would have to depend to a greater degree on agriculture. A group of our businessmen concerned themselves, and the milk receiving station in the Elk Run section was built. This plant was sold to the Reick-McJunkin Dairy and opened October 1, 1929 under L. D. Murray. Thus, Punxsutawney became a point where milk was received for shipment to Pittsburgh.

Between wars the Chamber of Commerce was ever seeking to give the industrial activity of the community new injections of life. During this period of American development and scarcity of risk capital there were many promoters, some well-meaning men of vision and ability, seeking to have Chambers

of Commerce aid them in their efforts to organize and operate businesses. Ours was no exception and the late William F. Smith, hoping to find something of promise and desire to have funds available to put to such use, organized the Punxsutawney Industrial Fund, to which a great many local businessmen as well as citizens make regular contributions. This fund was greatly responsible for the new industrial activity which came about before and during the Second World War.

It formed the nucleus of the money which went to purchase the Silk Mill, the Old Tibby-Brawner Plant, and the land on which the Eldred Glass Company had stood. When the country was preparing in 1939 and 1940 for inevitable war, the Federal Laboratories Company was seeking suitable quarters for some assembly operations. The Chamber of Commerce, under the able direction of Harry Fleming, undertook to make the Tibby plant with its huge floor space available for use. Additional funds were sought, and with great and generous hearts the people gave nearly twenty thousand dollars. All during the war years, the building was rented to the Federal Laboratories while they assembled airplane flares. When hostilities ceased, the Federal people vacated and again the Chamber of Commerce, under the direction of Samuel X. Jordan and E. D. Fry, located two firms to occupy and operate industries in this plant. They are the Progressive Stamping Company and the Metals Protection Company. About this time the Silk Mill was made available and the Jefferson Textile Company began operations which consisted of processing and sewing heavy canvas for military use.

Shortly after preparedness activity started, The Speer Carbon Company of Saint Mary's, Pa., contacted Robert S. Philliber, then President of the Chamber of Commerce, seeking a location for a modern plant to manufacture carbon electrodes. Eventually, through the tireless efforts of J. G. Kelly and W. B. Means directly and many others indirectly, the land in the Elk Run district was purchased and deeded to them for the erection of a plant. With the aid of the Federal government this plant was constructed, and after the war it was sold to the operating company.

When the War ended, the Chamber of Commerce constructed a small, modern factory unit and moved the Jefferson Textile Company into this building, thus vacating the Old Silk Mill building for other uses. Early in 1948 they commenced negotiations with a large shirtwaist manufacturer who has recently begun operations here under the firm name of "Pramco."

In this year 1949 there are many industries operating in the community, making their contribution to its well being. Besides the extensive coal operations whose headquarters are found here, the following businesses are now operating.

Amundson Bros. Machine & Repair Co., 205 Pine Street.

B. F. G. Mfg. Co., 705 Cherry Street.

Clark's Upholstery Service, 804 W. Mahoning Street.

Jefferson Machine Co., Rear Tiona Street.

Keystone Flour & Feed Co., 254 N. Findley Street.

Keystone Welding & Machine Shop, 912 W. Mahoning Street.



Kocher Upholstering Co., Indiana Street.  
 Metal Protection Company, Elk Run.  
 Mahoning Maid Ice Cream Co., Front Street.  
 Mahoning Valley Milling Co., Indiana Street.  
 McKenzie Baking Company, Roberts Street.  
 Phillips Machine Shop, Punxsutawney.  
 Plast-O-Kraft, Inc., Walnut Street.  
 Progressive Stamping Co., Elk Run Avenue.  
 Punx'y Baking Co., Pine Street.  
 Punxsutawney Company, 242 N. Front Street.  
 Punx'y Electric Repairs o., 231 N. Penn Street.  
 Punx'y Beef & Provision Co.  
 Sno-ee Products, 313 N. Main Street.  
 Standard Universal Conversion Grates, Front Street.  
 Star Broom Company, 105 S. Main Street.

All of these are industries producing for home consumption as well as outside use. There are many others not listed for lack of space and because of their local nature. These businesses such as the beverage manufacturers, the planing mills, the wholesale grocers, the dairies and the welders are all an important part of that complex life which developed from that simple primitive village existence of so long ago.

In closing, I must mention just one more industry, The Punxsutawney Spirit. Yes, the gathering and dispensing the news is industry. The printing business which prospers with it, too, contributes much to the progress and prosperity here, but that is a history for another to write.

In a survey so great, encompassing so many years, one must touch lightly on some phases and not at all on others. We have had to follow trends; and, if we have omitted any industry dear to the heart of any residents, such omission is assuredly not intentional. Add it where you think it should be and enjoy, we hope, reliving these days that have passed.

"A man's real possession is his memory. In nothing else is he rich, in nothing else is he poor."\*

NOTE—I am indebted to the memories of many local people in drawing this material together. I have gleaned bits here and there in conversation during the days I have interested myself in this endeavor. Considerable material was found in W. J. McKnight's and Kate Scott's *Histories of Jefferson County*. The brochure written by the late W. O. Smith for the Celebration of 1909 was of great help. The material concerning the more recent times, well, I lived those days and was a part of them, so I have drawn liberally on memory. Historical perspective has been resorted to in relatively few places; if your memory travels back farther than mine and my background is not exact, forgive me and supply your own. \*The final quotation is one found in an essay of Alexander Smith (1830-1867) Dreamthorp, "Of Death and the Fear of Dying" and is quoted from Page 588 of the 1938 edition of *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*.

By Robert S. Philliber

## MINING IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

The mining industry has been one of the most important and lucrative industries in Jefferson County, and Punxsutawney has been the center of this industry in the county.

Jefferson County lies north of center of the western half of Pennsylvania. All but the southeast corner is in the lower Allegheny Coal Area. Coal is the most valuable mineral resource with an estimated billion tons still available. The cream of the original deposits has been taken and production from deep mines is steadily declining. During the past six years, as much coal has been mined by the open pit method in Jefferson County as has been mined by deep mines. This source of coal supply has declined rapidly during the past year; and, unless new methods of operation are devised, this method of mining will soon be extinct in this vicinity. Most of the coal remaining in this area to be mined ranges from 2 to 3 feet in thickness, and generally is a high-grade low-volatile coal. New mining methods will be devised to mine this coal successfully.

The Allegheny group contains 8 coal beds. The upper Freeport which ranges from 26 to 52 inches and varies greatly in quality, is mined extensively in this area. The Lower Freeport is the most important coal in the county. In areas it is 6 to 7 feet in thickness, but of the remaining coal in this bed most of it is less than 4 feet thick. The Upper Kittanning coal is rarely over 2 feet thick and of doubtful quality. The Middle Kittanning coal is from 3 to 4 feet thick. The Lower Kittanning is persistent

and averages about 2½ feet in thickness. The Clarion and Brookville coals are fairly persistent but thin.

The first mining in the county began at Reynoldsville in the year of 1873, by the Diamond Gas Coal Company. The first coal shipped from Jefferson County by rail was from this mine in 1874. The coal was transported by wagons to the railroad and was then shipped to Buffalo, N. Y. Later a siding was built across the Sandy Lick Creek to the Allegheny Valley Railroad. About 1878 the Powers Brown Coal Company and the Hamilton Coal Company opened mines near Reynoldsville.

The principal producing company in the vicinity of Punxsutawney was the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal & Iron Company which is now known as the R. & P. Company. In 1882 it opened the Walston mine which for years had an average production of more than 3,000 tons a day and later had 800 coke ovens. In 1884 the Adrian mine with 1,500 coke ovens was opened and these operations were followed by Eleanora in 1885 and Helvetia in 1886. Elk Run Shaft and Florence Mine near Anita were opened before the turn of the century. In 1896 the R. & P. Coal Co. absorbed the extensive operations of the Bell, Lewis and Yates Co., its largest rival in Jefferson County. The company, at this time, had a daily production of 35,000 tons of coal and 4,000 tons of coke within a 40 mile radius of Punxsutawney where their main operating office was located. The mines of this company operated almost exclusively in the Lower Freeport coal bed which ranged from 5 to



7 feet in thickness with a general average of 6 feet. Only Helvetia Mine of this company remains in production in this area.

The Berwind White Coal Company began operations in 1886 by leasing or purchasing 6,000 acres of coal land. West Eureka Nos. 1 & 2 made shipments of coal in 1887. This coal was shipped over the Bells Gap branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad to Bellwood and then to east tide water over the main line of the P.R.R. Other mines quickly followed Nos. 1 & 2 and named as follows: Horatio, Eureka Nos. 10, 11, 12 & 13. Production increased rapidly from a few hundred tons in 1887 to 240,000 tons in 1888. In 1891, production for this company was more than 1,000,000 tons and mines Nos. 4, 5, & 6 were added to production. This company paid out in wages and salaries annually more than \$1,000,000. As new towns were built, they were generally named after some member of the operating firm, as Anita was named after the wife of one owner and Horatio was named after ex-Congressman Horatio G. Fisher. Mr. Fisher was also Manager of Mines for this company in Punxsutawney. The last mine opened by this company in this vicinity was Soldier near Sykesville.

In 1902, the N.Y.C.R.R. Company opened mines at Rossiter, Indiana County; and, from then until the mines were abandoned in 1944, a total of more than 44,000,000 tons of coal was produced. The mines at Rossiter gave employment at their peak to more than 700 men and contributed greatly to the prosperity of Punxsutawney. In or about 1904 the Buffalo and Susquehanna Company opened the Onondaga shaft near Cloe, and this mine operated for approximately 30 years and gave employment to as many as 400 men.

Coal production in Jefferson County reached a peak in 1947 when 318,000,000 tons of coal were produced, by 2,260 employees.

From a safety standpoint the safest year for coal miners in Jefferson County was 1943 when 2,492,658 tons of coal was produced with only one fatal accident. The worth year for safety was in 1937, when only 193,793 tons of coal were produced for each fatal accident.

In addition to coal mining, this area contains some of the very best fire-clay known. The Lower Kittanning clay, ranging in thickness from 3 to 20 feet with an average thickness of 7 feet, leads in quantity and quality. Nearly as thick and of equally good quality is the Brookville clay. The Mercer clay, which is only about 2½ feet thick, is also very important. There are also the Upper Freeport; and Middle Kittanning clays which are about 4 feet thick. The clays under the other coats are from 3 to 10 feet thick. On the whole, it would appear that this vicinity is amply provided with clay for brick, tile or terra-cotta. Flinty clay of high quality exists in this vicinity but has not yet been developed.

Jess Whiteman had the first auto in town. He often gave rides to the children who followed his car.



Modern coal tippie now operating at the No. 8 mine of the Lindsey Coal Mining Co. Approximately 475 tons daily are handled at this tippie.

## Coke Ovens

Coke burning at one time formed an important industry in this community. Being a subsidiary of the coal business, as long as there was a large production of coal, the output of coke was correspondingly large; but, when the main coal fields were stripped, the coke business fell off in its productivity and later the ovens were abandoned.

At the present time all that is left of this formerly great industry of Punxsutawney, are the caved in ruins of the ovens.

The ovens were located in two towns adjacent to Punxsutawney, Walston and Adrian. It is said that the Walston ovens were the longest unbroken string of coke ovens in the world.

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### WALSTON OVENS

The construction of the Walston coke ovens was begun in 1883. They were formed in two banks or lines totaling about 700 ovens in all. The first line of ovens extended from above Walston down around the hill to the Old West End Brick Yards in Punxsutawney—near the site of the present Golf Links. The other line was a shorter one and was located across the creek from the longer line; this line extended from above Walston down the main road about a quarter of a mile to a tippie.

These ovens were built on what is known as the "beehive" pattern and the capacity of each oven was approximately five tons. In addition to the ovens there were a coal washer and a crusher on the property.

The total coke production of Walston was estimated to have been about 50 cars a day.

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### THE ADRIAN OVENS

The construction of the Adrian ovens was begun in 1887 under the supervision of Mr. J. M. Murphy. Mr. Walter Ames was chief engineer and Mr. David Motherwell was boss of the coke yard.

The Adrian ovens were the old style ovens with opening at the top; coal was dumped in these openings from a hopper pushed by a dinky engine running



on rails on top of the ovens. The capacity of the ovens was five tons.

When the ovens were first opened, they were constructed in two lines with a total of 250 ovens. One line of 110 ovens was located near the County road; the other line of 140 ovens was located near the old street car tracks. These were added to from time to time until they totaled 520.

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## STRIP MINING

The history of Punxsutawney's one hundred years is also the history of its major industry, coal mining. Of this one hundred years, strip mining has been in existence a mere ten years—but its role has been phenomenal. Strip mining in the vicinity of Punxsutawney, therefore, is current history; and the boom years of '46, '47, '48 have had a far-reaching effect on the life of the town. While strip mining is nothing new to the State as a whole, the earliest record of strip mining by a Punxsutawney man was in 1936 when David W. Straitiff began operations in the New Bethlehem area. The following year, 1937, John Harvey, another resident, began operating in the same area. These two men were, therefore, our pioneers in the strip or open pit method of coal mining.

Strip mining, however, did not begin to gain volume or tonnage until the event of World War II. By 1943 we had the first open pit operation in the near vicinity when Spencer and Moore began operations near a mine called the "Owls Nest." Later Spencer and Moore separated to form the Everett Moore Coal Company and the Spencer Coal Company.

1943 and 1944 were the experimental years. Open pit or strip mining was handicapped by the lack of proper machinery. Its future was uncertain and its market demand not great.

The year 1945 found strip-mining well established with new operations developing every month. The strip-operator had found his own. The 1945 tonnage was close to the half-million ton mark and was rapidly increasing as new coal fields were developed. Among the operating companies in 1945 we find some of the pioneers and a few new comers. Operating near Punxsutawney were: Camarco and Miller, Clover Run Coal Company, Sam and Oscar Light, Everett Moore, Seitz and Bowers Coal Co., Spencer and Mauk, S. B. and S. Company, and James White.

In 1946 the demand for coal was still increasing, and once again the strip-operator expanded his operations. More new companies appeared on the scene. Tonnage increased to three-quarters of a million tons, an increase of a quarter million tons over 1945. New producers to make their appearance were the Eleanora Coal Company, P. and N. Coal Company, Pearce and Westphal, Widnoon Coal Company, and Yoxtheimer. The year 1946 brought changes in the methods of strip minings. New and larger equipment had been introduced to facilitate stripping. This equipment enabled the producer to load a deeper and better quality coal at less cost. Large tipples and cleaning plants were built and strip mining was in full bloom.

Strip mining reached its climax in 1947 with the

total tonnage running well over a million tons. Among the list of operating companies we find the following: H. E. Brickell, Compton Coal Co., Camarco and Miller, Eleanora Coal Co., Widnoon Coal Co., Gardner Coal Co., Clover Run Coal Co., John Kann Coal Co., Capazo Coal Co., Lowmaster and Sons, Everett Moore, P. and N. Coal Co., Spencer and Mauk, S. B. and S. Coal Co., Yoxtheimer, and Mahoning Corp. Aside from the actual operating companies there were also many varied interests in Punxsutawney either directly or indirectly associated with the strip operator. Many residents received incomes through royalties from coal lands, docks, and tipples over which the coal was loaded. Other citizens and business establishments profited and rode with the boom. Then too, an influx of strip operators and workers did much to push the price of real estate up and rents increased too, as available living quarters became overcrowded.

In 1948 strip mining was still producing great tonnages, but the peak was over. The total tonnage dropped back to an estimated 712,000 tons. The demand for coal had begun to lessen and the cream of the crop coal was gone. The market began to demand better grades of coal, and the operators were forced to give up higher veins to work better quality lower coal seams. Business, however, was good and a few new companies made their appearance; such as, Philips Coal Co., Kurtz and Bowers, Sheesley, Bowers and Kurtz, Coolspring Coal Co., and Beaver Coal Company. Punxsutawney was also headquarters for many companies whose operations were in other areas. Largest of these is the Beaver Coal Company. This company, operated by Troy Beaver, produced over one-half million tons in 1947.

Today, coal stripping is on the wane. 1949 is not expected to be a good coal year. The coal market has dropped over night and the strip miners find themselves with an over-stocked market. The demand for high quality coal, competition, and price cutting have forced a great number of strippers to stop operating. Today we find only a few strips producing coal while the great majority lie idle. This situation may well mean the end of stripping in this area; but strip mining has most definitely left its mark on the history of Punxsutawney.

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## TRANSPORTATION

### BUFFALO, ROCHESTER AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD CO.

A natural sequence to the immense coal industry in Punxsutawney was the advent of the railroad, the purpose of which was, of course, to transport the coal to other sections of the country for consumption.

The first road to enter Punxsutawney was the Buffalo, Rochester, and Pittsburgh, which made its appearance in 1883, when regular train service was inaugurated on September 1. In 1898 the road was double-tracked and in 1898-99 the railroad was extended to Pittsburgh and thus improved the traveling facilities between the "Groundhog Town," and the "Smoky City."



A freight house was built in 1882 and extensive enlargements were made in 1899. The original freight house is in use at the present time (1949). The present station of brick was built in 1900.

The coaches of this period were described in the following paragraphs quoted from the industrial issue of *The Spirit*, May, 1900:

"A high rate of speed combined with sharp curves and long, steep grades made it imperative to provide exceptionally staunch cars and the latest appliances. It was also desired that they should be second to none in general appearance, conveniences and finish for trains of this class."

"The equipment consists of cafe, chair, day, express and mail cars, in all of which the essential features, such as length, construction, platforms, vestibules, brakes, etc., are identical. All the cars, excepting express and mail and baggage end of cafe cars, are fitted with wide vestibules, which are finished in mahogany, fully trimmed with polished bronze fittings, hand rails, etc., and have balanced trap doors over step openings. Heating is provided for by the Consolidated Co.'s direct system of steam with the new automatic traps. The Pintsch gas lighting system is employed, each car having two 9 ft. 6 in. receivers and a liberal number of center, vestibule and bracket lamps, the latter being used in the toilet rooms, kitchens, pantries, etc. The windows are double throughout, which luxury will be appreciated by the public during cold weather, as these are usually provided in handsomely embossed bronzed and silvered. The curtains are of tapestry, hung on Hartshorn spring rollers and fitted at the bottom with Barrow's royal punch handle fixtures. Mahogany is used for the day and chair cars and quartered oak for cafe cars. The ceilings of all the cars are three-ply veneer, painted and decorated to harmonize with the surroundings; those in the chair and cafe cars are of the shape known as the Empire. The seats in the cafe consist of sofas, wicker chairs in the smoking room and opera chairs in the dining room. All are upholstered with dark green leather. The chair cars have twin reclining chairs, and day cars high back, pedestal seats with swinging foot rests, both made by the Scarott Furniture Co. These, as well as the different sofas, corner seats, etc., are upholstered with a rich maroon frieze plush. The sofas are covered with leather. Nickerle wash stands and bowls are provided in the toilet rooms of the cafe and chair cars, water being supplied from overhead tanks. Those in the day cars have the usual pump and tank, as this was thought to give less trouble in cold weather. For the same reason the "Standard" dry closets were used in these cars, while the cafe and chair cars have sanitary flushing closets."

"The floors of cafe and chair cars throughout are covered with handsome Wilton carpets and Wilton aisle strips are provided in the day cars. The floors of the day car smoking rooms and of all closets and passages are covered with linoleum; the platform floors and step treads are corrugated rubber covering edged with polished brass. There are handsome portieres at the different bulkhead openings of all cars and window draping in the cafe cars.

The cafe cars are fully equipped with ranges, steam tables, pantries, buffets, silver, china, glass, table linen and kitchen utensils, and the staterooms in the chair cars with the necessary bedding."

In 1903 a branch line of the B., R. & P. was built from Punxsutawney to Indiana. Mr. A. W. Jones was the surveyor who laid out the route.

The first B., R. & P. roundhouse in this vicinity was built about 1889 just south of the present freight house. Later, in 1892, a roundhouse, a coal tipple, and other equipment were erected at Elk Run. In 1917, the construction of a new roundhouse was begun at Rikers, Pa., about two miles northeast of Punxsutawney. This roundhouse was finished in the winter of 1919-20 and occupied soon afterward.

On Dec. 27, 1922, the transportation directing force of the Pittsburgh and Middle divisions of the B., R. & P. Railway Company moved its headquarters from DuBois to Punxsutawney. The force, sixty-eight in all, included A. B. White and his staff; Assistant Superintendents R. L. Moore, D. W. McCarthy, O. H. Stokes and their staffs; four chief train dispatchers; signal supervisor, car distributor, fourteen train dispatchers, car accountant, signal engineer, and other office personnel.

This group was located in the building on North Penn Street formerly the home of the R. & P. Coal and Iron Company office force.

In 1932 the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad was bought by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

## THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD CO.

Punxsutawney and the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway Company (now the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company) have been closely associated since September 1, 1883, when the first train was operated into Punxsutawney from Rochester, N. Y.

The completion of the railroad from Punxsutawney to Butler, September 4, 1899, assured an outlet to Pittsburgh and points south, east and west. The completion of the Indiana sub-division from Indiana Junction to Josephine, June 1, 1903, opened up vast coal lands.

In 1922, the superintendent's headquarters were transferred to Punxsutawney. On January 1, 1932, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company took over



A partial view of the shops of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.





A general view of the shops and yards of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

the control and operation of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway Company and the Buffalo and Susquehanna Railroad Corporation. The Buffalo Division was formed consisting of the former B., R. & P. Ry. Co., the B. & S. R. R. Corp., and the Butler Branch of the B. & O. from Butler, Pa., to Mt. Jewett, Pa., having a total of 1385 miles of track and 3800 employees. The B. & O. continued to maintain the headquarters of the Buffalo Division at Punxsutawney, which is now under the supervision of Superintendent H. D. Graffious.

In 1918, a modern engine terminal was constructed at considerable cost, consisting of a 16-stall roundhouse together with machine shop, blacksmith shop, power plant, coaling station, storehouse, 105-ft. turntable and other buildings required for the successful operation of a terminal. This engine terminal was modernized for the handling of Diesel power at considerable expense early in 1949, so that this engine terminal ranks with the best on the system.

A modern division office building of brick construction for housing the division office force is maintained; a passenger station of brick construction; and a frame freight house and transfer platform. L.C.L. freight loaded at Pittsburgh, Chicago, Baltimore, St. Louis, and other stations on the B. & O. system is billed to Punxsutawney, then worked and re-loaded in 24 scheduled cars for other points on the Buffalo Division.

At Cloe is maintained a scale office and coal billing agent, where all coal from the Indiana and Jefferson County coal fields is weighed and billed.

Repair tracks are maintained at Elk Run and Bells Mills for inspecting and making light repairs to cars.

Power assigned to the engine terminal consists of 33 steam and 10 Diesel locomotives. The average daily dispatchments are 42 steam and 8 Diesel locomotives, east to East Salamanca, N. Y., west to Butler, New Castle and Glenwood, and mine and district runs to the Indiana sub-division.

A force of 251 employees is assigned to the engine terminal and repair tracks, whose average earnings per month amount to \$75,000; M. and W. department employs 50, earning \$13,000; train, engine and other transportation department employees, 400, earnings \$146,000; and stores department 10 employees, earnings \$2,300; or total employees at Punxsutawney 711; payroll \$257,000 per month.

Members of the Buffalo Division staff are: Superintendent, H. D. Graffious, Punxsutawney, Pa.; terminal superintendent, R. J. Cannon, Buffalo, N. Y.; assistant superintendent, J. R. Frease, Punxsutawney, Pa.; master mechanic, L. R. Haase, DuBois, Pa.; division operator, C. A. Bearfield, Punxsutawney, Pa.

Serving on the west end of a division are: Trainmaster, B. A. Johnson, Punxsutawney, Pa.; assistant

trainmasters, M. J. Curran, Galeton, Pa., and L. W. Wetzel, Butler, Pa.; road foreman of engines, A. W. Liddell, Punxsutawney, Pa.; division engineer, H. B. Hoyt, Punxsutawney, Pa.; division claim agent, A. W. Williams, DuBois, Pa.

On the east end of the division are: Trainmaster, R. C. Brown, East Salamanca, N. Y.; road foreman of engines, A. K. Jacobs, East Salamanca, N. Y.; division claim agent, E. A. Burns, Rochester, N. Y.; division engineer, W. E. Graham, East Salamanca, N. Y.; assistant division engineer, C. W. Bailey, East Salamanca, N. Y.

## THE PENNSYLVANIA AND NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD

The Pennsylvania and Northwestern Railroad was completed to Punxsutawney in 1886, and regular service inaugurated December 7, 1887, when John R. Fee took charge of the station in East End. In 1901 this railroad was bought by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

### PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY

In the year of 1886 the Pennsylvania Railroad was extended from Irvona to Punxsutawney. In 1889, the railroad was extended to Fordham. The railroad of this branch was a single track. The surveying of the road was headed by Mr. Don Valere. The chief engineer was Mr. Van Renssaeler and the assistant engineer was Mr. H. S. Wolfkill, both of Punxsutawney.

A passenger station, a freight house and roundhouse in East End were built after the completion of this road. The station house was a two story frame building with a wooden platform extending on the left side from the ticket office. The roundhouse had a capacity of eleven engines.

In 1901 the Pennsylvania Railroad bought the Pennsylvania and Northwestern Railroad and since then it has been known as the Cresson Division.

At the present time only the freight house in East End is in operation.

## THE BUFFALO & SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD

The Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad, which used the B., R. & P. tracks from Sykesville to Juneau, was built from Juneau to Sagamore, Armstrong County, in 1905. This railroad was acquired by the B. and O. Railroad in 1932 when it took control of the B., R. & P. Railway Co.

### THE JEFFERSON TRACTION COMPANY

The Punxsutawney Street Passenger Railway Company was organized in 1892. This company operated cars on the line extending from the East End to the West End of Mahoning Street, and on the Findley Street line. Its lines were soon extended to Anita, Pa., at that time a small, prosperous lumbering and mining town.

In 1902, the Punxsutawney Street Railway Company was re-organized and took the name of Jeffer-



son Traction Company. The following year, 1903, under the new management the lines were extended to Eleanora, a small mining town, and from Eleanora to Soldier and Sykesville. In 1905 the Walston branch was laid from Foundry Street, West End to Walston. A charter was applied for, in November, 1906, for the privilege of laying a line to Big Run going through Albion. The track was laid only to the borough line until in 1910 the Company obtained franchise rights to build the line to the center of Big Run and there to connect with the United Traction Company of DuBois.

In 1911, the Findley Street car service was discontinued. On February 1, 1922, the street car service to Walston was discontinued as the Public Service Commission approved of the Jefferson Traction Com-

pany's petition to discontinue service. On the same date various changes were made in the city line schedule. In September of 1927, the local service was discontinued.

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#### THE EDWARDS LAKES TO SEA SYSTEM

The Edwards Lakes to Sea System provides bus service for the residents of Punxsutawney to Buffalo, Pittsburgh and intervening communities.

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#### BLUE & WHITE LINES, INC.

The Blue & White Lines provides bus service from Punxsutawney to Altoona, Johnstown, Pa., Cumberland, Maryland, and to intervening points.

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## BRIEF HISTORIES OF INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES

*Compiled by* **LOWELL PEOPLES**

### PRODUCING INDUSTRIES

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#### B.F.G. ELECTRO-PLATING AND MANUFACTURING CO., INC.

The B.F.G. Electro-Plating and Manufacturing Company, Inc., was founded in April, 1947. At first, there were four stockholders; namely, John Grube, Howard Freas, Robert Brown, and Joseph Beezer. In May, 1948, Mark Leech was taken as the fifth stockholder. The company's officers are: John Grube, president; Howard Freas, vice president; Joseph Beezer, secretary-treasurer; and Robert Brown, general manager. The company erected a building at 705 Third Avenue which is their present location (1949). Early in the fall of 1947 the company began operation. They do many types of electro-plating such as: chromium, nicked, cadmium, copper, tin, and zinc, and barrel plating in both nickel and cadmium. Buffing is done on a large scale.

#### JEFFERSON TEXTILE COMPANY

The Jefferson Textile Company began operating in 1946 under the general management of Depp J. McMillen and the joint ownership of Joseph E. Logan and Harold B. Woolridge. This plant makes such items as men's jackets, truck covers, tarpaulins, and curtains for outdoor equipment.

Prior to 1946, the plant was known as the Dur-Pac Products Company and from 1944 to 1946, the management was in the hands of Mr. McMillen.

The Jefferson Textile Company, successor to the Dur-Pak business, is located on Third Avenue.

#### PLAST-O-KRAF, INC.

The Plast-O-Kraf, Inc., was started in November, 1946, by B. E. Reichenbach, T. A. Fear, S. E. Wells, N. F. Wells, and E. E. Wells. Although it was started in 1946, it was not incorporated until May, 1947. The organization was in the building of the Punxsutawney Company until the building burned on January 11, 1947. Now Plast-O-Kraf, Inc., is located in a new building on North Chestnut Street. This industry specializes in fabricating and moulding.

#### MAHONING ICE CREAM COMPANY

In 1912, Raffetto's Ice Cream Company was established. The company manufactured and sold ice cream from its plant on West Mahoning Street, now occupied by Raffetto's Restaurant. Two years later Johnson's Kandy Kitchen started manufacturing ice cream in the building at 208 North Findley Street, now occupied by the Punxsutawney Furniture Exchange. The Jefferson Ice and Dairy Products Company was started in 1919 by farmers and businessmen of Punxsutawney to create a market for dairy farmers. They purchased part of the buildings and equipment of the Elk Run Brewery.

A consolidation of these three—Raffetto's Ice Cream Company, Johnson's Kandy Kitchen, Jefferson Ice and Dairy Products Company—was effected March 24, 1924. The new company, the Mahoning Ice Cream Company, is located at 240-242 Front Street in the buildings formerly occupied by the Jefferson Ice and Dairy Products Company which were purchased from the Elk Run Brewery Company in 1919.

The first general manager of the Mahoning Ice Cream Company was Fred J. Raffetto, who was succeeded by Ernest Steige. Mr. Steige was followed by F. N. Bidwell, who still heads the company and is the principal stockholder.

#### MAHONING VALLEY MILLING COMPANY

The Mahoning Valley Milling Company of Punxsutawney was organized and incorporated in the fall of 1909 by E. N. Wehrle, Paul W. Wehrle, Leon H. Hoffman, H. K. North, Joseph Baumgartner, Sr., Joseph Baumgartner, Jr., J. B. Haag, Wesley Gillespie, L. C. Boyd, and John Montgomery. The application for charter, approved November 23, 1909, was recorded in the recorder's office of Brookville, Pennsylvania, on November 27, 1909.

The following were elected as officers: E. N. Wehrle, president; Paul W. Wehrle, vice president; L. H. Hoffman, secretary; J. B. Haag, treasurer; H. K. North, general manager. The directors were: Joseph Baumgartner, Jr., Joseph Baumgartner, Sr., Wesley Gillespie, and John Montgomery.



W. C. Gillespie was chosen as the first miller to take care of the machinery, installed by the Wolf Company, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and consisted of a complete up-to-date forty barrel capacity wheat mill, a 25 barrel buckwheat mill, and a five-ton feed capacity. This machinery was installed in what was known as the Old Woolen Mill, which had been founded and owned by O. B. Nordstrom, from whose estate the building was purchased.

A short time after opening for business, the company was brought to the realization that they were too cramped for space. It was decided the following summer (1910) to build an addition in the form of a brick warehouse. This was done with all possible speed.

In 1924 the charter was surrendered and the corporation dissolved. The present owner of the business, which is located on Indiana Street, is Paul W. Wehrle.

Several thousand dollars damage was caused by the 1936 flood. The business has since increased in size.

#### METALS PROTECTION COMPANY OF PENN'A and PROGRESSIVE STAMPING COMPANY, INC.

The Metals Protection Company of Pennsylvania was organized in 1939. During the war the company was almost 100% engaged in doing subcontract work for manufacturers of war materials.

The main plants of this concern are located in Pittsburgh. After the war it became evident that additional manufacturing space was needed. The Chamber of Commerce of Punxsutawney was contacted in May, 1946, and it was learned that a plant was available for immediate operation. Because of this fact, it was possible to install equipment and get into operating condition in a matter of months.

One of the firm's customers at that time was the Progressive Stamping Company, headed by L. G. Clark. Because of the necessity of very close cooperation between the plating and stamping companies, it was advisable, in October, 1946, to affiliate the two under the management of Mr. Clark. This move was imperative because of the increasing demand for a complete article instead of dividing the responsibility of plating and stamping between different concerns. As a result of the merger, the Metals Protection Company is now able to handle the entire process—from raw materials to the packaging and delivery of the finished article.

In October, 1946, the company acquired a small plating plant in Pittsburgh. This plant is used as a laboratory for the development of new methods in plating and stamping.

The plant in Elk Run at the present time is adequate to handle the existing business, but it is the

intention of the company to do most of its future expansion at this plant. This decision has been made because of the wonderful cooperation given by the laborers and business people of Punxsutawney.

The buildings on the property are adequate for the amount of business at the present time; and, if business increases, there is sufficient area for construction of new buildings. The facilities of the present plant have been increased recently to the place that they are able to produce any kind of stamping in brass, aluminum, or steel. Also, all types of spray plating, and facilities are available for assembly of stamped and plated parts.

#### PRAMCO, INC.

This firm, a Pennsylvania corporation, is one of the latest industries to begin operations here. Through the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, which secured the old "Silk Mill" building to be leased to this firm, employment has been secured for approximately 125 people.

The building has been remodeled by the installation of a group of offices on the south end of the first floor. About one-half of the remaining floor area is devoted to a cutting department and the balance of the area has been used for an internal stock room and shipping area. An elevator has been added to the building structure to provide freight elevator service to the second floor. On this floor, the south end has been equipped with a machine shop, rest rooms, first-aid room, and locker space. The balance of this floor is devoted to sewing and finishing, where over 100 high-speed industrial type sewing machines, and a group of modern electric and steam pressing irons and tables have been installed. Fluorescent light-interior illumination consistent with the type of work being performed. Feed rails for electric power have been installed as machines in all departments are individual electric drive. Sewing machines are single unit stands and motors, which allows for flexibility and rapid changes in the plant layout.

The entire blouse is manufactured at this plant. Piece goods in large bolts are spread and then cut on the cutting tables by electric cutters into the component parts. After bundling, the parts are sent to the second floor, where operators, who have been trained on several specific operations, perform their particular type of work. After the parts, such as collars, sleeves, cuffs, etc., are completed, the various sections are assembled into a completed garment; then whatever buttonholes and buttons are required, are added; the garment next goes to trim and inspect, pressing, fold, and box. When finished, the garments are returned to finished stock and shipping.

Most of the 125 employes are women, who have a greater adaptability for the sewing and finishing operations. Local women are employed through the P.S.E.S. which is cooperating in applying aptitude and dexterity tests to applicants. If the applicant has a satisfactory grading on these tests, she may be hired as a trainee. During the training period, the potential ability of the trainee is tested; and she is given extensive training in a group of specific operations, so that at the expiration of the training period, the trainee becomes an efficient employe, who has learned a valuable occupation.



A general view of the up-to-date factory buildings of the Metals Protection Co. and the Progressive Stamping Co., Inc.





The large, well lighted factory building occupied by Pramco, Inc.

The administrative staff consists of S. E. McKibben, with long management experience, as plant manager; Miss L. Kara, of South Bend, Ind., as training forelady, who has had over 20 years of experience in training sewing operators; John Birli, cutting foreman, formerly from Salisbury, Md., who has a highly developed background in cutting garments; Robert Doty, assistant foreman, formerly from Oskaloosa, Iowa, who has had a great deal of experience in mass production of garments. Miss Marjorie Murray, office manager, is a local resident.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY BEEF AND PROVISION COMPANY

A monument to one man's ideas and industry, and an outstanding example of what can be accomplished where home capital is properly directed, the Punxsutawney Beef and Provision Co. has been one of Punxsutawney's fastest growing and most substantial institutions.

The company was incorporated on September 26, 1905, and on February 12, 1906, business was launched with J. P. Wilson, president; W. H. Heckendorn, secretary-treasurer; John A. Philliber, general manager. The stockholders were, in addition to above named: S. A. Rinn, A. C. Robinson, F. C. Lang, Samuel McHenry, A. L. Light, Dominic Tronzo, G. W. Hess, and W. O. Smith.

The original transportation equipment of the concern consisted of two wagons and three horses. The first building was about one-twentieth the size of the present plant and the total number on the payroll, a month after the firm had begun to do business, was fourteen.

The growth of the company was not rapid at first, but the man who launched this industry that was destined to be Punxsutawney's pride, had complete faith in its ultimate success; and over a period of several years he acquired the outstanding stock until eventually it was held by the Philliber family.

As the business of the company grew, an auto delivery truck was purchased—the second to be used in Punxsutawney. Business was transacted within a radius of thirty miles during the early days of the concern.

In 1915, Harry Philliber was elected treasurer of the company. He had become actively identified with his father in the conduct of the business prior to that time. Later a younger brother, John F.

Philliber, was chosen as business manager, and upon the death of Harry Philliber his son, Robert S. Philliber, stepped into the picture and has been carrying on with typical family efficiency.

The vision and industry that had enabled John A. Philliber to launch the business on its way to success was present in augmented quantity in his sons and grandson under whose direction the business has grown steadily and surely.

The rapid growth of the Punxsutawney Beef and Provision Co. was checked briefly by a disastrous fire in 1921. The destroyed buildings, however, were immediately supplanted by more modern structures, and yearly there have been noteworthy additions to the plant and equipment, until today it constitutes one of the most modern and sanitary establishments of its kind in the country. Capitalizing on the fact that Punxsutawney is the home of the Groundhog, and the name being particularly appropriate to the products of a beef and provision company, the products of the company were placed on the market under the label, "Groundhog Brand," a brand that is now known and esteemed the country over.

The business really had its inception 50 years ago when John A. Philliber, then a youth and residing at Perrysville, spent his entire capital of \$1.50 for a wheel-barrow, purchased a calf on credit, slaughtered and sold it. For several years thereafter he killed cattle and sold meats in the winter and worked in the woods in the summer. Forty years ago he started the Star Meat Market in Punxsutawney. Meat for the shop was killed in Horatio and hauled to this city.

Punxsutawney is justly proud of this strictly home industry.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY BOILER WORKS

The history of the Punxsutawney Boiler Works is to a large extent the history of William (Bill) Allison, who was born in Scotland in 1860 and who died in Punxsutawney in 1945.

About the year 1895, Mr. Allison, who had been working for the Phoenix Iron Works at Meadville was sent to Punxsutawney by that company at the request of L. W. Robinson to repair boilers for the R.



A general view of the Punxsutawney Beef and Provision Co.'s plant, one of the largest independent packing companies in Pennsylvania.



P. C. & I. at Adrian. L. W. Robinson, the brother of E. W. Robinson, was general manager of the coal company. After the job was completed, Mr. Allison decided to stay in Punxsutawney and open a shop. He formed a partnership with Jack Stewart, who was related to the Porter family of West End, and started a small shop in that section of the city at the rear of the Porter building where they started to make stacks and do general sheet metal work. After a few years, Mr. Stewart sold his interest to Frank Dickson, and the partnership became Allison and Dickson. Frank Dickson had worked with Mr. Allison and had learned the trade in Meadville.

In 1900 G. W. Porter erected a new building at the present location of the Punxsutawney Boiler Works at the rear of 900 West Mahoning Street, and Allison and Dickson rented it from him and moved into the new building and the firm became "The Punxsutawney Boiler Works." After about five years, Mr. Allison bought out Frank Dickson and became sole owner. Later, he bought the building from the Porter family. Among the employes of those days were Bro Rundell, Bob Gillespie and Sam Smith who are still living in Punxsutawney.

The period of greatest activity in the company's history was in 1920 and 1921 when 15 men were employed. Because of the type of work done and the physical effort necessary to cut steel plate with a hammer and chisel and drive rivets by hand, there was a rather constant flow of men through the shop with only the more rugged staying any length of time.

Old records of the company show that in 1898, boiler repairs were made at Walston and the coal company was charged 45c per hour. The men were paid 15c per hour. Steel was charged at 6c per pound.

At that time between Punxsutawney and Reynolds-ville there were 75 boilers of the R.P.C. & I. in constant use which were kept in repair by this company. These boilers were all put out of service when the new power plant was built at Helvetia. The company specialized in making and repairing diamond drill boilers for the Olsens, Hampsons, and Hoffman Brothers. Along with that it made many stationary boilers which are still in use at the hospital, the greenhouses and the county court house. The two largest boilers made by the company were for Crissman's Greenhouse in 1923; these are still in use. They are 6 feet in diameter and 18 feet long.

For a few years after the death of Mr. Allison in 1945, the company was operated by his estate.

On Nov. 1, 1947, the company was purchased by a new partnership consisting of Arthur Heitzenrater and John Harvey, Jr., who now operate the company under the same name, Punxsutawney Boiler Works. Arthur Heitzenrater started to work for the company in 1919, learned the trade, and acted as shop foreman for the estate after the death of Mr. Allison.

In the trade, there are frequent letters and phone calls asking, "Is this the Allison Boiler Works?" It has been identified with the original founder for so long that a few years' absence has yet made little difference.

—By John Harvey, Jr.

## THE PUNXSUTAWNEY COMPANY

Most companies grow from the creative ideas and the combined efforts of all its employes. The Punxsutawney Company is no exception.

The Punxsutawney Company (242 N. Front St.), makers of refrigerating equipment, was founded in 1945 by John and Herman Buffington who are the present proprietors. A fire completely destroyed the building and machines in January, 1947. The plant was rebuilt November, 1947.

The many exclusive and ingenious features incorporated in the Beverage-Air products gives evidence of team work and employee initiative at its best. "Beverage-Air" commercial beverage cooling equipment is the exclusive product of this company. Although it is manufactured for several other leading firms in the refrigeration industry, it is the same product as marketed under the Beverage-Air trade name, further indicating the wide trade acceptance of Beverage-Air which now reaches nationwide along with several export markets.

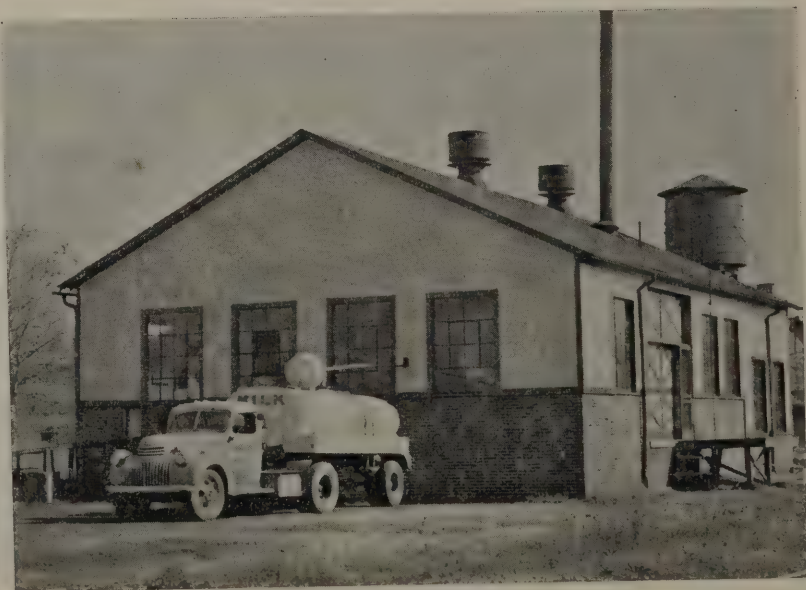
Representatives of the local firm are located in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Chicago, Illinois; Atlanta, Georgia; and Houston, Texas.

## PUNXSUTAWNEY METALIZING CO.

The Punxsutawney Metalizing Co., located at 215 West Liberty Street, was founded in January of 1947 by Ed. Grube and C. E. Tuck. The process which this company uses in treating metals is a comparatively new one. This company is the only one in the section that uses the metal spraying process.

## REICK-McJUNKIN DAIRY CO.

The Reick-McJunkin Dairy Co., located on Ellsmore Avenue, was originally founded by Reick in 1884. The company set up a receiving station in Punxsutawney in 1929. The building, housing the plant, was constructed by the Punxsutawney Board of Trade and leased to Reick-McJunkin, who later purchased it.



The milk receiving station owned and operated by the Reick-McJunkin Dairy Co., of Pittsburgh, Pa.



The milk from the outlying farms around Punxsutawney is received at the plant here and shipped to Pittsburgh.

The Punxsutawney station is under the supervision of Lawrence D. Murray.

### F. J. ROBERTS SQUIB CO

The squib industry was pioneered by the late John R. Powell, of Plymouth, Penna. The first squib used was straw filled with black powder and one end dipped in coal oil to form a fuse. Later he patented and began manufacturing the squib used today which is a paper tube one-eighth inch in diameter by seven inches long, filled with fine burning blasting powder. It is projected through the air by the reaction of gasses liberated by the combustion of the black blasting powder.

Squibs are used for igniting charges of blasting powder in the mining and lumbering industry.

In 1946 the machinery and patent rights were purchased from the Powell firm, moved to Punxsutawney, and here the F. J. Roberts Squib Co. began manufacturing "Improved Miners' Safety Squibs."

In Punxsutawney we have the only squib factory in the United States; and from Punxsutawney, shipments are made to all parts of the United States and Canada. The plant employs five people at the present time.

### STAR BROOM FACTORY

The Star Broom Factory, located in the old Gillespie Mill Building on South Main Street, was established in March 1925 by S. J. Gloyd, the present (1949) owner. Previously Mr. Gloyd owned a partnership in an incorporated broom factory in Parkville, New York. He was managing president and salesman of this concern with Punxsutawney as the southern extension of the area which they supplied with brooms.

Before the war the Star Broom factory employed seven men full time. During the years of 1943-44 the low ceiling prices for retail brooms forced the factory to discontinue operation. In 1945, the factory reopened and since then has employed two men with the average production of 30 to 40 dozen brooms per week. The high cost of broom corn prohibited the factory from returning to its pre-war output. In the 1936 flood, the factory suffered a small loss of several hundred dollars. This factory supplies the local retailers with household brooms.

### SNO-EE PRODUCTS

The Sno-ee Products Company was started by John Becker in 1933. The establishment is located at 314 North Main Street at the rear of the Becker residence.

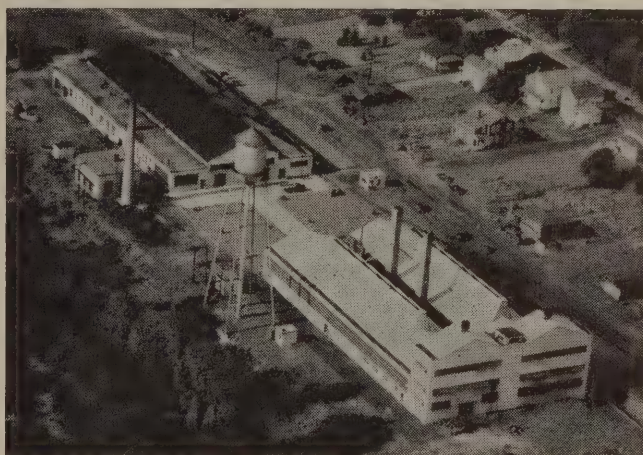
Formerly located on Horatio Street, this industry was moved to its present location in 1936 by Mr. Becker. He and his son, John, Jr., are employed in this business.

The Sno-ee Products Company operates with one truck and one car and serves Jefferson, Clearfield, Clarion, and Indiana Counties.

### SPEER CARBON COMPANY

The plant of the Speer Carbon Company, manufacturing battery electrodes, is a direct outgrowth of the wartime demand for dry cell batteries. Among other manufactured items little known to the general public is the carbon rod or electrode centered in a dry cell—a vital and indispensable part of this useful product. In flashlights, radio batteries, rockets, railway lanterns, hearing aid devices and at many points where portable electrical energy is needed, millions of dry cell batteries are used.

The Speer Carbon Co. in its main plant at St. Marys, Pa., has for a long time been the largest manufacturer of carbon electrodes for dry cells. In April, 1944, the War Production Board authorized,



Modern plant of the Speer Carbon Company

through the Defense Plant Corporation, the erection of the present plant and designated the Speer Carbon Co. as the operator. The availability of a suitable site, favorable labor conditions, and community cooperation were factors influencing the selection of Punxsutawney as the location of the plant. Construction was begun in July, 1944, and the present plant with an estimated capacity of 60,000,000 electrodes monthly, produced the first electrodes early in 1945. The output at this period was designated chiefly for use in U. S. Signal Corps batteries and for export under the Lend-Lease program.

Following the war the plant's production continued in demand, operations were maintained, and in the latter part of 1947 the Speer Carbon Company purchased the plant from the government. This modern, efficient plant now produces a large proportion of the requirements for electrodes by the dry cell battery manufacturers in this country.

### STANDARD UNIVERSAL PRODUCTS CO.

The Standard Universal Products Company was founded in 1943 by M. H. Garfinkle. A fire in the spring of 1946 caused \$1,000 in damages. The chief product is iron castings. The company employs 10 men at the present time (1949) and is located at 245 North Front Street.

The Old Congregational Church site was on North Main Street. Wayne White has built a home where the church used to be.



## THE STOCKDALE COMPANY

The Stockdale Company, located in Frostburg, was founded in 1937 by George Stockdale and Frank Stockdale. Since that time the Stockdale Company has grown until it supplies the majority of the pump valves used in the coal mining operations of the Pennsylvania-West Virginia regions. The pump valve which this company manufactures is patented and controlled by Frank Stockdale. The Stockdale Pump Valve, however, consists of two sections with only one moving part. As the earlier type valves were constructed of metal, they were often destroyed in one day by the acids present in the mine water. The Stockdale valve has no metal and is constructed of wood and rubber.

In addition to pump valves, the Stockdale Company also produces large quantities of pick handles and baseball bats.

The Stockdale Company employs between eight and ten men and can produce more than 100 complete pump valves per day.

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## CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND GENERAL SERVICE

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### ACME MACHINE AND WELDING COMPANY

Acme Machine and Welding Company, founded in June, 1946, by W. L. Barnoff and J. E. Lydick, was located in the Mahoning Foundry building in West End. In the spring of 1948 a concrete block building was erected at 129 Pleasant Avenue, its present location.

The Acme Machine and Welding Company, a small but growing industry, specializes in mining equipment repair work, also other repairs and general machine work.

### AMUNDSON BROTHERS' MACHINE AND REPAIR COMPANY

The Amundson Brothers' Machine and Repair Company is located on Sutton and Mitchell Avenues. The business was founded in 1903 by Jonas Johnson. In 1942, three brothers, H. J. Amundson, O. E. Amundson, and A. M. Amundson, purchased the business. The officers of the company at the present time are: president H. J. Amundson; vice president and superintendent, A. M. Amundson; secretary-treasurer, O. E. Amundson.

The business suffered considerable damage in the floods of 1911 and 1936, but has prospered greatly since that time.

### BEAM'S MACHINE SHOP

Jacob B. Beam began business on December 23, 1908, in an ice house and barn located at 119 East Liberty Street. He came to Punxsutawney from Delancey, Pennsylvania, where he had charge of the R. P. C. & I. Co. machine shops throughout the extent of their operations. He is the descendant of

William Best, one of the early settlers of Jefferson County.

At first, he kept his tools and machines in box stalls and repaired automobiles in the rear of the barn. More room was needed, so he added sheds to the existing buildings. Such was the growth of his business, that, in 1918, he built a two-story steel building 40x82. He discontinued the repair of automobiles in 1918 and concentrated on experimental machine work and general repairs.

He invented a sectional radiator and the machinery for stamping the core, one of the first automatic production machines, the use of which he gave royalty free to the U. S. Government during World War I; a steam valve which is still in use among such large plants as the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.; and a high pressure acetylene generator for oxy-acetylene welding. In all, 32 patents are held by Mr. Beam.

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey developed in his shop a bit for drilling which is currently used in Texas and Oklahoma. Glass gauges were made for use in Belgium. A mine safety warning device was also perfected.

Today, Beam's Machine Shop is the oldest and one of the best equipped machine shops in this area for general repair work. It services the mines, farms, and business establishments of the vicinity.

Mr. Beam and his son Glenn conduct the business.

### MATSON BLOSE AND SONS

The firm of Matson Blose and Sons, located at 106 Cleveland Street, was founded in 1932 by Matson Blose. At the present time, the firm is operated by Mr. Blose and his two sons, Matson Jr. and Lewis. This firm operates eight trucks and four trailers, also two scrap yards where new and used parts are bought and sold. The firm buys used scrap and prepares it for re-use.

### R. L. BUCK TRUCKING

R. L. Buck Trucking service started in DuBois, Pa., in September, 1939, when the owner was, however, residing in Punxsutawney. The first hauling was done for Montgomery Ward. R. L. Buck then bought out a freight company which includes the Punxsutawney and DuBois territory. A license for moving rights to all points in Pennsylvania was approved by the Public Utility Commission.

In 1941 the owner moved his offices to DuBois and in 1943 moved back to Punxsutawney. The company then started pick-up and delivery service for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; shortly after, the same service for the B. & O. Railroad Company.

In May, 1945, Mr. Buck volunteered for Army duty and turned the business over to his wife until his discharge in 1946.

Since that time, the business has expanded to include freight rights to a much larger territory. The company also has a license for nation-wide moving.

### CLOE LUMBER & SUPPLY COMPANY, INC.

The Cloe Lumber & Supply Company, Inc., was organized in 1920 by H. G. Bowers, Samuel States, Irwin Simpson, A. P. Sutter and John D. Young, and



finally incorporated August 24, 1921. The company was opened under the management of Walter C. Simpson until his death in June, 1926, when John R. Bell took over the management. Since his death on July 23, 1933, the company has been under the management of Edwin A. Dougherty.

The company runs a retail lumber yard, and handles lumber, doors, windows, etc., with builders' supplies, cement, sand, sewer pipe, septic tanks, and brick. It also handles builders' hardware and paint.

#### CROASMAN SHEET METAL CO.

The Croasman Sheet Metal Co., located at 113 N. Jefferson Street, was founded in 1891 by A. N. McQuown at the present location. Mr. McQuown, together with his son L. A. McQuown, operated the business under the name of McQuown Sheet Metal Co., until October 1, 1946, when it was purchased by B. Ray Croasman and Max Neal, who operated under the name of C. & N. Sheet Metal Co. until June 1, 1947. At that time Mr. Neal's interest was purchased by Mr. Croasman.

Work performed is general sheet metal work, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, spouting, and roofing.

From eight to ten persons are employed.

#### DUNKEL ROOFING COMPANY

The origin of the Dunkel Roofing Company, located at 307 Greenwood Avenue, is credited to Thomas J. Dunkel, who founded it in the spring of 1896 in Elk Run. Upon the death of the founder in 1926, his sons, M. B. Dunkel and Fred F. Dunkel, who had been active in its operation for some time, formed a partnership known as Dunkel Brothers and later changed the name to Dunkel Roofing Company. Upon the death of Fred F. Dunkel in 1944 the business was continued by M. B. Dunkel, its present owner and operator. The company does general roofing and roofing repair, also spouting and ventilating work.

#### FORREST J. ELDER, ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

The business of Forrest Elder, electrical contractor, was founded in 1916. Mr. Elder wires houses, makes power installations, motors, appliances, and does general electrical work. He has two employees working with him. His contracting business is located at his home at 1060 East Mahoning Street.

#### HARVEY'S WELDING SERVICE

Harvey Welding Service began operation as a welding school just prior to the outbreak of the war in 1941. There being an urgent need for a distributor of oxygen and acetylene, as well as other industrial gases and welding equipment, T. W. Harvey contracted with the Linde Air Products Company to distribute their industrial and medical gases and welding equipment.

In January, 1942, Harvey Welding Service began to handle oxygen, acetylene, and welders' supplies exclusively from Black Lick, Pa., operating two trucks and with T. W. Harvey, J. M. Harvey, and John Harvey Jr. as partners.

In 1944 a branch was opened in Punxsutawney. The same year T. W. Harvey purchased the interest of his partners and shortly after opened a branch in Greensburg, Pa. The Black Lick branch was closed out early in 1945.

T. W. Harvey retained sole ownership of the business until January, 1946. The rapid growth of the business made it necessary to open additional branches and to take in new partners. T. Barrett Quinn of Greensburg became a partner in January, 1946. In June, 1946, a branch was opened in Indiana, Pa. The following year, 1947, saw E. A. Goodfellow, Jr., of Indiana, Pa., admitted as a partner in April; and in July still another branch was opened in Johnstown, Pa.

Two changes were made in 1948. In January, Blaine Bell of Punxsutawney was admitted to the partnership, and in July, 1948, T. W. Harvey sold his interests to the remaining three partners.

Today Harvey Welding Service is the largest distributor of oxygen and acetylene in this section and one of the largest in the country. They employ 16 trucks and 19 men in serving a nine-county area. From the Punxsutawney branch Jefferson, Clearfield, Elk and parts of other counties are served. Industrial strippers, contractors, schools, scrap dealers, and hostries, welding shops, garages, farmers, coal mines and pits are a few of the many concerns supplied with Oxygen, Acetylene and other welders' supplies by the Punxsutawney branch. Hospitals in Punxsutawney, Brookville, Clearfield, St. Marys, and Ridgway are all supplied with oxygen from Punxsutawney, which stresses the importance of prompt and efficient delivery service.

Harvey Welding Service now operates 4 branches: Punxsutawney, Indiana, Greensburg, and Johnstown with three partners: T. Barrett Quinn, Greensburg; E. A. Goodfellow, Indiana; and Blaine Bell, Punxsutawney.

#### HOFFMAN BROTHERS DRILLING CO.

By Leon H. Hoffman

Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company is a Pennsylvania corporation, organized in 1925 for the purpose of engaging in a general drilling business, and more especially, diamond core drilling for testing bituminous coal lands and other mineral properties.

The company has always maintained its headquarters and offices in Punxsutawney. The incorporators were two brothers, the late Orvis C. Hoffman, who was president from the date of organization to the time of his death in the year 1939, and Leon H. Hoffman, who was secretary and treasurer.

The officers of the corporation at the present time are Leon H. Hoffman, president and treasurer; Orvis C. Hoffman, Jr., vice president; and W. H. Hampton, secretary and assistant treasurer.

#### Early History

It was about the year 1889 when Philip H. Hoffman of Trade City, Pa., formed a partnership with W. W. Holben and J. A. Croasman, with the firm name of Hoffman, Holben and Croasman, Well Drillers.

The first equipment used was a single-beam Keystone Drilling Machine. The firm continued for several years, when Philip Hoffman sold his interest in the equipment, and the year following he purchased



a new Keystone double beam drilling machine and engaged in the business as an individual contractor. He continued drilling wells until his death in 1896. After his death Orvis C. Hoffman, the oldest of Hoffman Brothers, continued in the business of drilling water wells, until the year 1903 when, in addition to well drilling, he became interested in diamond core drilling and purchased interests in two diamond drills.

It was about the year 1907 when Orvis C. Hoffman and Leon H. Hoffman formed the partnership of Hoffman Brothers and continued as an operating firm until 1925, the date of incorporation of Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company.

These were the "horse and buggy" days. There were no improved highways and no automobiles nor trucks. Traveling was generally done by train. Good accommodations for drillers could be secured with farmers, whose homes were near the locations where the drilling was being done. Farmers with teams and wagons were available for moving the equipment from place to place.

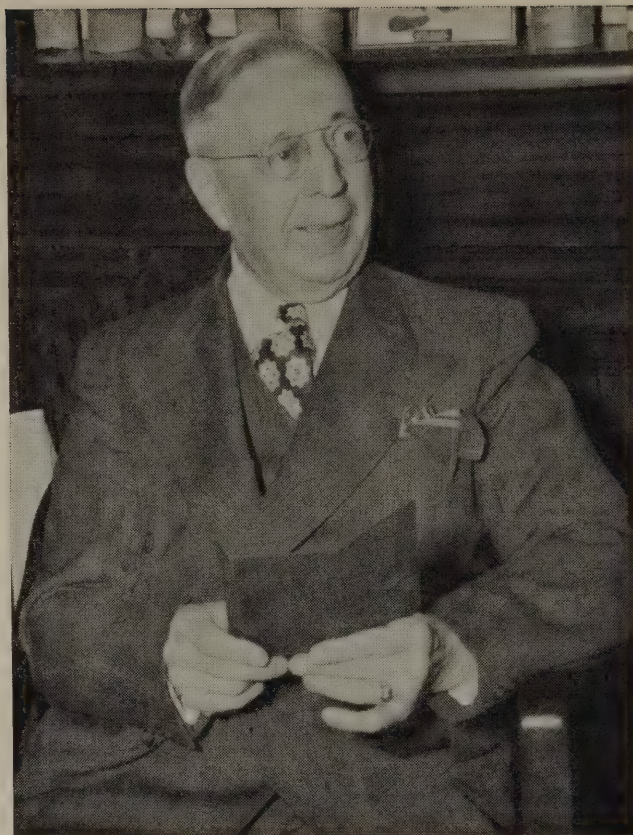
Hoffman Brothers partnership did not own any property suitable for storage. For several years an old barn on East Mahoning Street was rented from Henry Ernest for storing extra necessary supplies. The first office was in one room of their living quarters located in the Zeitler residence above the grocery store on the corner of East Mahoning Street and North Penn Street, where the Atlantic Refining Company's filling station is now located. It was about 1908 when Room No. 1 was rented in the Eberhart Building and other adjoining rooms were rented later when available, and the offices were maintained there until 1933 when they were moved to the present location in the County National Bank Building (now Hunger), 120 E. Mahoning Street.

#### *The Period of Expansion*

Since diamond core drilling is a very highly specialized business, it became apparent as the years passed on, that in order to be prepared to serve successfully companies that required this service, it was necessary to be equipped with enough complete drilling units so that drills could be placed promptly after contracts were made. This necessitated a vigorous policy of expansion and an increasing number of drills. From time to time, when there was an opportunity, equipment was purchased either from individual contractors or other drilling companies who for some reason were inactive. These were all steam driven drills. They were generally Birdsboro, or Pennsylvania Diamond Core Drills, with some Sullivan outfits, and the Monarch drills which were designed and specially constructed for drilling diamond drill holes to 2,000 feet or more in depth.

Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company owns a plot of ground at Skelton, near Beckley, W. Va., where a steel building has been erected for storage of drills and equipment for use throughout the Southern bituminous coal fields.

During the year 1933, Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company purchased all of the assets, real estate, machinery and machine shop and drilling equipment of the Punxsutawney Drilling and Contracting Company, located along the Pennsylvania Railroad, off Tiona Street. Since that time several adjoining lots have been added; and this property, in conjunction



LEON H. HOFFMAN  
President and Treasurer of Hoffman Brothers Drilling Co.

with the property already owned by the company, located back of the Kurtz Lumber Supply Company, provided ample space for the storage of drilling equipment and extra supplies.

Since acquiring the machine shop, it has been modernized by installing individual motors for each machine, also the addition of some specially needed equipment to be prepared for almost any kind of machine shop work. This machine shop and machinery is leased to Thomas, William and John Gaffney, operating as Jefferson Machine Company. This firm is engaged in a general machine shop business, but its facilities are available for construction and repair work of Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company.

Good machine shop work is of vital importance to the drilling business, and as we recall the many years we have been in business, we feel we must pay a small tribute to our personal friend, W. E. Porter of the Star Iron Works, whose shop is located on West Mahoning Street, in West End, Punxsutawney. He has specialized in manufacturing diamond drilling tools, for the trade, and during our years in the drilling business, practically all of our tools, such as drill-rods, core barrels, water swivels, hoist plugs, spring pieces, etc., have been made at Porter's Machine Shop. He enjoys the distinction of being the pioneer machinist for doing this class of work, in this part of the bituminous coal fields, and his work and co-operation always merited the loyalty of his many patrons.

Steam driven diamond drills have, from the early days, been recognized as having special merit, and the results obtained, most satisfactory. Their performance, when prospecting the lower deep seams of coal, has



always been considered by mining engineers as first class, with the best possible coal cores obtained. Their use today is limited to favorable terrain where moving conditions are favorable, and delivering fuel is not a difficult and expensive problem. Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company continues to use many of this type of drilling machines.

The modern gasoline drills have taken the place of steam for many jobs, especially where conditions are unfavorable to steam. These drills are used almost exclusively when drilling mountainous territory, sometimes far distant from habitation, and where roads must be constructed by bulldozers as needed, and the moving done by tractors.

### *The Period of Modernization*

Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company began to modernize in the year 1936 in the type of new drilling machines purchased. From that date to the present time, 20 new gasoline drills, together with gasoline pumping units for delivering water, have been added to the equipment. These drills are all of the most approved types of well known manufacturers and suitable for deep drilling. They are all hydraulic drills and operated with either water or oil. With these modern machines, either mounted on trucks or skids, it is now possible to do any kind of drilling, for any mineral, and, while coal prospecting will still be considered the specialty for Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company, these drills will also be available for other work anywhere throughout the United States and Canada.

Besides gasoline drills, the company has several electrically driven drills, either with permissible motors, or without, for drilling inside the mines. These drills are engaged in prospecting in many different fields, and add materially to the facilities for service.

In addition to the business of prospecting mineral lands, the company is engaged in Gouting and Pre-grouting Mine Shafts, and solidifying the strata above mine workings, in order to solve the water problems. Several large Gardner-Denver grout pumps are available for this type of work.

Diamond drill holes are drilled at intervals in the area to be grouted; and through these holes, by the use of packers, grout is pumped under the proper pressure, in order to fill all crevices or openings in the strata formations, thus forming a seal impervious to water and seepage, which otherwise would find its way into the mines.

Churn Drilling or Percussion Drilling is being done by the use of a number of new type Keystone gasoline drilling machines, all mounted on trucks and moved from place to place quickly and on their own power. These drills are used for drilling large size discharge holes, electric cable holes, and water wells for mines. These drills are used for drilling bore holes, where cores are not necessary, and are used for work over a wide fields.

### *Diamond Bits and Diamond Bit Setting*

It was about 10 years ago, when Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company began the manufacturing of mechanical or cast-set diamond bits. Before this, all diamond bits were set by hand. The diamond used for hand set bits were either carbons or bortz, weighing on the average, generally about 2 to 2½ carat per stone, and approximately 20 to 25 carats per bit.

These bits were either set at our headquarters and shipped out to the jobs where they were needed, or many times drillers in charge of each individual drill, if an experienced diamond bit setter, did the bit setting at the drill, and with two or three bits at all times, very little, if any, time was lost waiting for bits. Under the present method, small bortz or carbons, with about 8 to 10 to the carat, and about 28 to 30 carats per bit, are carefully set into casting molds and held in place until the molten metal (either beryllium copper or beryllium nickel) has been poured and the casting is completed. These bits are then carefully machined, heat-treated, and sand-blasted and finally inspected, numbered and recorded.

The machines used for this work are all specially built and electrically controlled. Large acid tanks are used for burning out diamonds when the bits must be re-set, and two large gas furnaces are used for heat-treating. The metal is tested for hardness by the use of a Rockwell testing machine. The bit-setting plant, as it stands today, is very complete and since the first installation, it has been entirely rebuilt along the lines and over the plans of the most successful plants of the kind in use by those who specialize in the manufacture of cast set bits. Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company is using the J. K. Smit and Sons special patent process for holding diamonds in place by suction.

Hand-set diamond bits, with the larger stones, are still being used for special kinds of drilling where the standard bits are not satisfactory. When a condition exists in rock formations where a special setting is necessary, these bits definitely have a place.

At this time of a retrospective view of the past, it is only natural for us to try to take an inventory and appraisal of our accomplishments as a member of Punxsutawney's industrial life. It is not for us to either praise or censure ourselves. It is true we have some machinery and equipment—"tools to work with"—and they are constantly being worn out, and must be either repaired or replaced sooner or later.

Every employe of Hoffman Brothers Drilling Company realizes the necessity for having the best of machinery and tools, and it is the established policy of the company to continue the acquirement of better equipment.

We take great pride in the knowledge that Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company, and that includes every loyal employe, has contributed something worthwhile in securing the necessary information, by diamond core drilling, for proving the value of thousands of acres of coal lands where operators of many of our largest mines were in position to make decisions with regard to opening new mines, which many times meant large sums of invested capital. With the appraisal of values beforehand, the gamble was removed and the mines were practically assured of success.

Hoffman Brothers' Drilling Company, during the long period they have been operating, have furnished employment to many experienced and capable men of this community, and also in adjoining counties, as well as distant places.

When the company is working at full capacity, there are generally from 80 to 100 regular employes, besides casual employes. Millions of dollars in wages have been paid to those associated with the com-



pany, and large sums are paid out constantly to others for services rendered and materials furnished. The costs of operation, due to the nature of the business, and the fact that it is spread over a wide field, are extremely heavy. But, the "mill continues to grind on" with higher aims and we hope towards greater achievements.

### HUDAK BROTHERS MONUMENT WORKS

Hudak Brothers Monument Works was founded in 1930 by G. A. Hudak. The present owners are G. A., N. E., and W. M. Hudak. The business, located at 442 South Main Street, is managed by G. H. Hudak.

### JEFFERSON MACHINE COMPANY

On October 1, 1939, Thomas I. Gaffney, Sr., John J. Gaffney, Wm. J. Gaffney, John M. Phillips, and Kenneth E. Phillips formed a partnership known as the Jefferson Machine Company, located at 119 Tiona Street.

Thomas Gaffney, the president of the company, came from DuBois to Punxsutawney in November, 1905. When he first came to Punxsutawney, he was employed by the Punxsutawney Foundry and Machine Company. After working one year, he was promoted to the job of foreman of the company's West End shop, now occupied by Amundson Brothers' Machine Repair Company. In 1907 he was made foreman of the East End shop, a position that he held until 1912 when he was promoted to the foremanship of both shops. In 1922 he was promoted to superintendent. He held this position until the death of E. W. Robinson in May, 1926, when he was made general manager, a position he held until resigning in September, 1939, to become a partner in the Jefferson Machine Company.

In his 53 years as a machinist he taught the machinist trade to many of this section's leading machinists.

John L. Gaffney, vice president of the company, was employed by the Punxsutawney Foundry & Machine Company prior to the time the Jefferson Machine Company was formed. He started to work as a machinist apprentice; but, with the advent to electric welding, he became the first electric welder in Punxsutawney, a job that he has held for the past 25 years.

William J. Gaffney, secretary-treasurer, began the machinist trade at the Punxsutawney Foundry & Machine Company in November, 1933, under the supervision of his father, Thomas Gaffney. He held this job until September, 1939, when the Jefferson Machine Company was formed.

Kenneth E. Phillips was a partner until April 1, 1942, when he sold his interest to the other four partners.

John M. Phillips entered the partnership in September, 1939, and continued as a partner until February 20, 1946, when he sold his interest to Thomas, John, and William Gaffney.

The Jefferson Machine Company specializes in the repairing and rebuilding of coal mining machinery and the repairing and manufacturing of diamond drilling equipment with a radius of 50 miles from Punxsutawney.

During the past 10 years there has been an average of 10 employes on the payroll. At the present time the employes have a combined total of approximately 200 years experience in the rebuilding and repairing of coal mining machinery.

Of the 11 employes who have served in the various branches of the armed services during World War II, three have returned to work at the Jefferson Machine Company while others have moved to other localities where they have either entered other businesses or entered higher educational institutions.

### KENDRA'S TRANSFER COMPANY

Kendra's Transfer Company was founded on July 5, 1911, by John M. Kendra, at 112 S. Chestnut St. During the flood of 1911 six feet of water stood on West Mahoning Street in front of Kendra's Transfer Co. This company is now located at 562 W. Mahoning St.

### KURTZ COAL, LUMBER AND SUPPLY CO.

Several years before 1919, the lumber company, owned by Mr. Swisher, was purchased by Mr. Peffer and son and became the Peffer and Son Lumber Company. A few years later, this lumber company was merged with the Punxsutawney Planing Mill Company into the Punxsutawney Lumber and Supply Company. At a later date the supply company was dissolved and became the Peffer Lumber Company with E. E. Boss as manager.

After the death of Mr. Boss, the Peffer Lumber Company and the real estate of the Punxsutawney Planing Mill Company were purchased by Kurtz Coal, Lumber, and Supply Company in the year 1919, with J. Simpson as manager. Later Simpson was succeeded by W. A. Sutter; in 1928, Mr. Sutter was succeeded by W. G. Williard; and Mr. Williard, by J. G. Brown, in 1943.

The Kurtz Coal, Lumber and Supply Company is a corporation of which Ned L. Brown is president; J. E. McCreight, vice president; and J. G. Brown, secretary-treasurer.

### MEANS BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION CO.

The Means Brothers Construction Company was started in 1920 by William B. and Warren M. Means, brothers, from Valier, Pa. During the first 16 years of operation, the contractors specialized in the construction and maintenance of gasoline stations and gasoline equipment throughout western Pennsylvania.

In 1937, the Means Brothers Company built the highway maintenance building in Fairview. In the past few years, it has erected such buildings as Rubin's Garage, the Sedler Building, Kromer's Dairy Building, Beaver Building, and the Jefferson Textile Building. Now, in 1949, this firm is erecting the maternity wing of the Adrian Hospital. This company has put up and repaired buildings in Indiana, Cresson, Warren, Bradford, and Washington, Pennsylvania, and the Fredericksburg Air Base in Maryland. In addition to the already mentioned jobs, the company has done considerable work for the Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad.

In 1944, Warren M. Means withdrew from the firm because of illness. In his place have come Wil-





Offices and plant of Kurtz Coal, Lumber & Supply Company at 600 East Mahoning Street.

liam, Jr., John J., and James H. Means, all sons of the general manager, William B. Means. Prior to 1937, the offices of the Means Brothers Construction Company were located at the site of their shops and yards in Valier, Pennsylvania. Since July 8, 1937, the main office has been in suite 11 of the Swartz Building in Punxsutawney. During the summer of 1948, eighty men were employed by the firm. The company owns a bulldozer, a steamshovel, a fleet of six trucks and much other construction equipment. The company has been a tremendous asset in the growth of Punxsutawney.

#### FRED R. MEANS

The Fred R. Means salvage business was founded in 1928. Fred R. Means is both the original and the present proprietor. The business, which was formerly located in Valier, was moved to Punxsutawney in 1939 and located on Indiana Street. In May, 1947, it was moved to its present (1949) location at 902 West Mahoning Street. This business deals in salvage, new steel, and wire work. Mr. Means owns the building in which he now operates.

#### J. R. McGEE AND SON

The firm of J. R. McGee and Son was founded by the late J. R. McGee in 1900. This firm specializes in house moving and raising. There are from four to eight employees. At the present time the firm is located at 208 Virginia Avenue and is operated by Willis McGee, son of the former owner.

#### CHARLES MILLER AND SON

This business was established by O. J. Miller and Charles N. Miller in 1889. Charles Miller took over the business in 1910. Nelson Miller went into the business with his father, Charles Miller, several years later, and now the business is managed by Nelson E. Miller. Both the original and present (1949) locations are on Jenks Avenue. Charles Miller put in the first mortar of the Adrian Hospital and of the Pantall Hotel. Charles' son recently remodeled the Murphy building.

#### FRANK MILLER

Frank D. Miller, a plaster and cement man, began his business in Punxsutawney in 1948. He has also worked in DuBois for the past 15 years. The business is located at 209 South Main Street.

#### MOONEY BROS.

The business firm commonly known as the Mooney Welding and Repair was established in 1933 during the most uncertain days of the great depression, with the express purpose of providing employment for Raymond, George, and Wilbur Mooney.

As the initial capital investment in the company was extremely small, there was a difficult struggle to remain in business. Nevertheless, the Mooney Brothers managed to keep going and acquired a small room at the rear of the National Hotel where they remained for three years. In 1937 they purchased from



Charles Stoops the building at 325 East Mahoning Street, in which the business is now conducted.

When business conditions began to improve in 1937, the Mooney Brothers secured the Frigidaire General Motors franchise and started selling Frigidaire and other household appliances.

In 1941 when the government sponsored training courses in skilled trades, Mooney Brothers established a welding school under federal supervision. Several hundred skilled welders were trained who passed Navy welding tests and were thus capable of helping to build everything from landing barges to the greatest aircraft carriers. These welders were employed in war production industries, with the exception of the men who served in the armed forces.

Although business conditions grew worse day by day, the Mooney Brothers remained open for business throughout the war. Since the war, the firm has forged ahead in the electrical appliance business.

In addition to the retail appliances and radio store, Mooney Brothers have also a complete and well equipped household electrical appliance repair shop.

During the summer of 1949 Mooney Brothers will install a new front and floor in their show room.

#### NEAL GRANITE AND MARBLE COMPANY

The Neal Granite and Marble Company was established in 1885 by S. Taylor Robinson and A. C. Robinson. At first, the business was known as the "S. T. and A. C. Robinson Brothers Undertaking and Marble Cutting." The business, located on South Gilpin Street, prospered until 1888 when the building and its contents were destroyed by fire. After the fire the undertaking business was moved to 212 West Mahoning Street. In 1900 the marble-cutting business was purchased by C. M. Neal, who moved to 113 South Gilpin Street where it was conducted until 1905, at which date it was incorporated as the Neal Granite and Marble Company. In 1913 George C. Brown, who was the principal stockholder, bought the entire plant and operated it until January, 1932, when he sold it to J. U. Rowbottom, who is now conducting the business at its present location, 234 West Mahoning Street.

The Cooper Pump on the corner of North Front and East Mahoning Streets furnished water for most of the residents of that section of this city 50 or 60 years ago. It was a never failing well and was never tested for purity.



Offices and retail store of Peoples Planing Mill

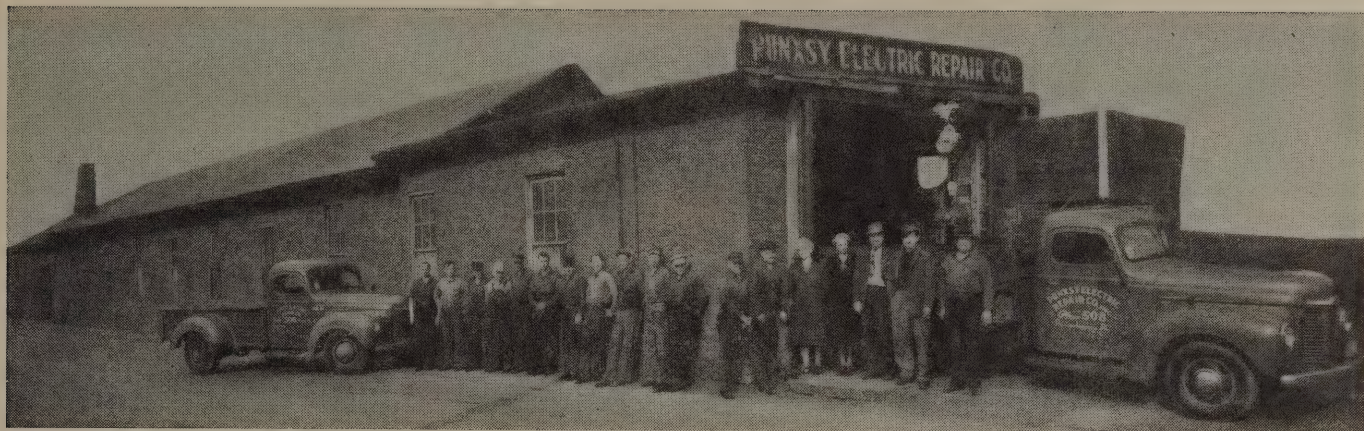
#### PEOPLE'S PLANING MILL

In 1884, when the lumber industry was in its infancy, Hiram Reese, a native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, came to Punxsutawney from Clearfield County. Previous to this time, he had been in charge of the shipping department of the Moshannon Land and Lumber Company, one of the largest concerns of its kind in this part of the country. With W. B. Rodgers and Mr. Clark, he organized, Reese, Rodgers, and Company in 1886; but, shortly after construction, the building was destroyed by one of Punxsutawney's worst fires which swept Mahoning Street and spent its fury at the corner of Jefferson and Union Streets. It was replaced; and, in 1895, having purchased the interest of his partners, Mr. Reese became sole owner of the firm and renamed it People's Planing Mill. About the year 1900, W. R. Cole became a member of the firm, and it has been under the proprietorship of Cole Brothers ever since.



Left to right: James Hopkins, Kenneth Wisor, Frank White, George Labance, Claude Caylor and Michael Raffetto





Left to right: Meggs Reinhart, Paul Frantz, Clair Fentermaker, Max Kouger, Charles Dunmire, Clarence Reinhart, Samuel McQuown, Dennis Richardson, Charles Tuck, Raymond Weiss, Raymond Cochran, Albert Marling, Alfred Lill, Nettie Cochran, Jean Carrick, Leroy Grube, John Grube, Edwin Grube.

Many buildings, both in this town and neighboring mining towns, were constructed by People's Planning Mill.

### ANDERSON'S PLUMBING AND HEATING CITY LUMBER SUPPLY

The retail department of the Anderson Company was started in June, 1947 at 918 West Mahoning Street. A wholesale establishment was started in August, 1948, at 313 Martha Street. Also in August, 1948, the City Lumber Supply was founded by Emory Anderson, founder of the retail and wholesale firms, and has been active in the building supply business since its inception.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY HOME IMPROVEMENT

The Punxsutawney Home Improvement, which was founded February 1, 1946, is owned by Max Hedrick and his step-son, Davis Swanson. The business was originally located at 101 Front Street. The present location is 1000 East Mahoning Street. The organization specializes in home improvements, installing windows, remodeling homes, and building new homes.

### THE RAGLEY MAYTAG STORE

The Ragley Maytag Store was founded February 7, 1932, by S. J. Ragley. Previously, the store was located at 234 West Mahoning Street and later on North Findley Street. The present (1949) location is 210 East Mahoning Street. During the 1936 flood the extent of damage was \$500, including washers and equipment. The company also operates a furniture store on North Findley Street. When the store first started, there was put one employee. Now there are six.

### RAFFETTO AND COMPANY

Raffetto and Company was founded May 13, 1912, by M. C. Raffetto, the present owner and manager, at 111 South Gilpin Street. The 1936 flood caused about \$2,000 damage; the water rose to a height of six feet in the store, which was moved in 1946 to 236 North Findley Street. In June, 1947, Mr. Raffetto bought the building in which the store is now located, 217 North Findley Street. The company's gross business is now more than five times the first year's volume.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY ELECTRIC REPAIR

The Punxsutawney Electric Repair Company of Punxsutawney, Pa., was founded in October, 1929, by the present president and manager, E. H. Grube. The other officers of the company are: vice president, John R. Grube; secretary, Alfred Lill; treasurer, Oscar Light. The concern specializes in electric motor and armature repair. It is also an agency for wire rope and Westinghouse supplies. The business, starting with three employes, now employs seventeen. It has been at its present location, 227 North Penn Street, since its inception.

### MODERN PLUMBING SHOP

The Modern Plumbing Shop, located at 321 East Mahoning Street, was founded September 9, 1947, by the present owner, Kenneth A. McIntosh.

### STALEY'S TRANSFER

Staley's Transfer was founded in 1922 by J. L. and W. M. Staley, the present owners. It was located on Elk Street until 1924 when it was moved to Front Street. In 1930 it was moved to Indiana Street where it remained until 1934 when it was moved to 209 North Findley Street, its present location. During the 1936 flood, there were two feet of water in the place. Since, however, everything had been raised above the flood. Then the trucks were parked on a hill, not much damage was done. Staley's Transfer does general hauling and moving.

### STAR IRON WORKS

The Star Iron Works, located at 900 West Mahoning Street, is one of the oldest industries in Punxsutawney.

In 1850 there was only one industry in Punxsutawney, a foundry established by Jacob Hoover. This foundry was run by an overshot wheel. Sometimes while a part was being cast, the water supply would run out. When this happened, the men would have to tread the wheel to keep up the power. This factory was the manufacturing center for plows, threshing machines, windmills, and various agricultural implements. In the spring of 1854 Jacob Hoover died, and Messrs. G. A. and Frank Mundorf took charge of the foundry. After twelve years, Mr. Mundorf sold



the foundry to Messrs. W. E. and J. W. Gillespie. In 1890, while still in the possession of W. E. and J. W. Gillespie, the foundry was completely destroyed by fire.

About a year later, G. W. Porter established a business on the site of the former foundry. This firm was called the Star Iron Works. In 1897 a blacksmith shop, a boiler room, and a machine shop were added to the plant. After several years G. W. Porter sold the business to W. E. Porter. Later W. E. Porter sold the foundry alone to G. W. Gillespie who named his foundry Mahoning Foundry & Machine Company.

At the present time the Star Iron Works is operated by Mr. W. E. Porter.

### THOMPSON AUTO WRECKING

The Thompson Auto Wrecking Co., located on South Main Street Extension, was founded in 1945 by J. R. Thompson.

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## WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BUSINESS

*Compiled by BARBARA EGGLESTON*

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Punxsutawney Ambulance Service came into existence on July 4, 1947. On this day, the right to service the local hospital or any other in the state of Pennsylvania was given to Frank P. Nitsche, formerly of Sewickley, Pa. Mr. Nitsche is married to the former Mildred E. Poydock of Adrian.

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission also gives Mr. Nitsche the right to rent chairs, hospital beds, wheel chairs, etc., to the general public.

The Rent-a-Car Service in Punxsutawney is also a part of this business. The cars can be rented and driven by any licensed driver. The rental periods can be by the hour, day, week, month, or longer.

The present location is 208 S. Jefferson Street.

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### AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORY AND SUPPLY

#### AUTO PARTS CO., INC.

The Auto Parts Co., Inc., of Indiana, was founded about 1933 by S. B. Brubaker and V. A. Jordan. Nothing was lost in the 1936 flood as everything was carried to safety. The manager of the Punxsutawney store is Harry Van Dyke.

It is a branch store of the Auto Parts Co., Inc., of Indiana, Pa. This store is located at 111 Front St.

#### DUNLOP TIRE & RUBBER CORP.

The Dunlop Tire & Rubber Corp. was founded in 1888 at Buffalo, N. Y., when Dunlop built the first

#### F. KEN ULP AND SON

F. Ken Ulp and Son, located in the Punxsutawney National Bank Building, was established in 1948 by F. Ken Ulp, E. D. Fry, and the P. & N. Coal Co. F. Ken Ulp and Son are general contractors. The president of the company is F. Ken Ulp.

#### WEISS REFRIGERATION

Weiss Refrigeration is located at 316 East Mahoning Street. It was founded in May of the year 1937 by Charles F. Weiss, who is the present proprietor.

#### GRANT W. WILLIARD, CONTRACTOR

Grant W. Williard, a resident of Punxsutawney for forty-three years, became a general contractor in 1945. Mr. Williard is located at 406 Highland Avenue. He was employed by the Kurtz Lumber and Supply Company for 25 years. He has been very successful in the general contracting business.

air-inflated tire—thus founding the pneumatic tire industry.

In February, 1930, the first branch store in Punxsutawney was opened at 103 South Findley Street. On January 1, 1934, the location was changed to 222 N. Findley St., where it still remains.

Mr. V. H. Ingram, a former manager of the local store, was promoted to district supervisor and until recently resided in Punxsutawney.

Mr. C. R. Varner, well known local resident, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Varner, also of Punx'y, officiated as manager of the store until his promotion to district supervisor. Mr. Varner resides in Punxsutawney.

Mr. Harry Gutelius, also a well known local resident, served as store manager. He is currently employed as service salesman with the P. & W. Tire Service.

Currently managing the store is Mr. Earl L. Colkitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman S. Colkitt, formerly of Punxsutawney, but now residing in Mentor, Ohio. Mr. Colkitt is also one of the town's able musicians. Daren Rugh, of Punxsutawney R. D. 4, is also an employee.

#### MACK'S AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY

C. B. McLaughlin, proprietor of Mack's Automotive Supply, was born in Newburg, Pennsylvania, and schooled in the eastern part of the state.

Prior to coming to Punxsutawney in 1912, he was associated with the United Water and Guaranty Company of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and connected with the Water Company of York, Pennsylvania. After coming to Punxsutawney, he was employed until 1919 by the Punxsutawney Water Company as assistant superintendent.

The Punxsutawney Storage Battery Company was originated and incorporated in June of 1919. C. B.



McLaughlin was a stockholder as well as general manager. A few years hence, the stock was purchased by O. C. Hoffman and C. B. McLaughlin, who remained partners until the death of Mr. Hoffman in 1937, at which time Mr. McLaughlin purchased the outstanding stock and became sole owner. He continued doing business under the name of Punxsutawney Storage Battery Company until 1944, when the name was changed to Mack's Automotive Supply.

At the present time, the automotive wholesale supply store employs seven people and is located in two buildings owned by Mr. McLaughlin at 110-112 South Gilpin Street.

## NABORHOOD AUTO STORES

The Naborhood Auto Stores opened its Punxsutawney store at 202 West Mahoning Street, in March 1935, under the managership of W. Howard Beam, who later assumed full control and ownership of this store. Mr. Beam came to Punxsutawney from Butler where he was associated with an automotive store. He was born in Pittsburgh and was educated in the Pittsburgh and Butler schools. A veteran of World War I, he received his business training in several of the larger cities.

A balanced stock of automotive parts, supplies, and accessories, including radios and bicycles is carried. Exactly one year after opening, the 1936 flood came, filling the store to a depth of three feet. Most of the stock had been removed to a safe location before the waters could damage it, but only after clerks standing in the rising water and working late into the night had moved all merchandise from lower shelves and bins.

The growth of the store has made it necessary to reserve stock in other locations.

Naborhood Auto Stores is a trade name registered in the state of Pennsylvania.

## P. & W. TIRE SERVICE

In the year 1947, Gordon Peterson and Clair Wagner formed a partnership. Mr. Peterson, from Indiana, Pa., formerly worked for the Super Tire Company of Johnstown; Clair Wagner came to Punx'y in 1942 from Clearfield and worked in the Punx'y store of the Dunlop Tire and Rubber Corporation until 1945.

From 1945 until 1947, he was employed by the Super Tire Co., of Johnstown.

In December of 1947, they opened a complete tire and recapping service at 231 N. Findley Street.

## S. AND S. TIRE COMPANY

The S. and S. Tire Company was opened in September, 1940, by Charles S. and L. Eugene Smith, who are still the managers. It was located on East Mahoning Street until 1942 when it was moved to 536 Graffius Avenue. In October, 1945, the entire building was destroyed by fire. The following year the business was opened at its present location, 549 East Mahoning Street.

## WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE

This establishment was opened at 207 West Mahoning Street April 23, 1949, by Glenn R. Wainwright, a native of this city. The son of Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Wainwright of Maple Avenue, he is married to the former Gladys Whitfield of Delancey. They have two sons and four daughters.

Mr. Wainwright has worked for the Spirit Publishing Company as composer printer for the past 25 years and operated the Groundhog Roller Rink on Indiana Street from 1938 to 1943.

Western Auto Supply Company was founded in a small way in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1909, as a mail order business. In 1935, the Western Auto Associate Store Plan was born.

The Western Auto Associate Store handles all types of auto parts and accessories, electrical appliances, refrigerators, washing machines, bicycles, wheel goods, hardware and paints, home and car radios, sporting and fishing goods, thereby covering a broad area in the merchandise field.

Frank Lento is employed as clerk.

## AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

### ALTMAN'S GARAGE

The Altman Brothers, Merle and Horace, established their business at 201 North Jefferson Street in 1932. They had previously operated their garage (for five years) at the corner of Farmers' Alley and Front Street, where, at present (1949) Speidel's Auto Glass Company and Zeitler's Garage are located.

Merle Altman, who in 1944, bought his brother's interest in the garage, is now the sole proprietor of the Altman Pontiac Garage.

The lot occupied by the garage had previously been the site of the First Baptist Church, which was used by the congregation until 1905. Then, for a period of time, Carl North operated a livery stable at this location. After Mr. North left, the building was remodeled for use as a garage by the late P. O. Freas and has been used for the purpose ever since.

The interior of the building has been remodeled. Cement floors replaced dirt and planking, and fluorescent lighting has been installed on both floors of the two-story building. The front section has been remodeled to serve as a modern showroom and to provide ample storage bins for parts and accessories. The auto repair shop is fully equipped.

The company employs eleven persons; namely: Merle H. Altman, owner; his son Donald; Ellsworth P. Suthard, Raymond J. Butler, Earl J. Altman, Phyllis G. Altman, William E. Kearfott, Gaspare Scichilone, of Ohio; Dorsey I. Shepler and Merle E. Weaver.

When Punxsutawney was at its industrial best it operated a one-man police force—but what a man! The kids of a half century ago never tire of telling of the exploits of "Clayte" Palmer, who, if half the tales that are told of his prowess are true, could account for a half dozen good men in physical combat.





ALTMAN'S GARAGE—Left to right: Dorsey Shepler, Earl Altman, Raymond Butler, Ed Kearfott, Ellsworth Suthard, Merle Weaver, Merle H. Altman, Phyllis Altman, Donald Altman, and Merle C. Altman.



Freas Brothers Garage, 400 East Mahoning Street.



## FREAS BROTHERS GARAGE

The firm of Freas Brothers was formed as a co-partnership in January, 1920. The members of this firm were Jay H. Freas, William R. Freas, and Philip O. Freas, all residents of Punxsutawney, Pa., and sons of P. O. Freas, pioneer bicycle, electrical, and automobile merchant in Punxsutawney. This firm was incorporated in 1924. The officers are: Jay H. Freas, president; William R. Freas, treasurer, and Philip O. Freas, secretary.

The business was started in the former Carl North Livery Stable building, 201 North Jefferson Street, where a storage garage and automobile sales agency was conducted until December, 1926, when this firm moved to their newly constructed building at 400 East Mahoning Street. The present building, 100x150 feet, is located on the site of the former First Presbyterian Church.

During the first year in business the firm sold Graham-Paige, Templar, Hupmobile, and Marmon automobiles along with the Bessemer truck. In 1922 the Dodge franchise was granted to this concern and up until the present time is the major line of automobiles handled. In 1924 the Dodge franchise was supplemented by Graham Brothers trucks later to become the Dodge Brothers truck, and in 1928 Plymouth passenger cars were added to the Dodge dealers' franchise.

In November, 1946, this firm expanded with the addition of a store at 118 East Mahoning Street, known as "Freas Brothers—B. F. Goodrich Store." This was the outgrowth of a large tire and accessory business acquired during World War II. There are five employees at this store.

In 1947 a used car lot was established on the northeast corner of Gilpin and West Mahoning Streets on the former property of the Ed. A. Murray department store. Several employees are at this location buying and selling used cars and trucks as well as operating a parking lot.

It requires a total of twenty-five employees to operate the business of Freas Brothers, Inc.

## GASTON CHEVROLET

Gaston Chevrolet, located at 211 S. Gilpin Street, was founded in 1924 by Ray Lockwood, who was also the first proprietor. In October, 1936, Mr. T. S. Gaston purchased the business and a corporation was formed with three partners: Mr. Gaston as president; Mr. Meigs Timblin of Rossiter as vice president; and Mr. John Nicholson of Barnesboro as secretary-treasurer.

In May, 1938, Mr. Gaston and Mr. Timblin purchased the stock of the third partner and continued the business as Gaston Chevrolet Co. In 1942, when Mr. Timblin was called into the service, the entire business was purchased by Mr. Gaston and is still owned by him.

Prior to coming to Punxsutawney, Mr. Gaston was with the McKenzie Motor Co., in Barnesboro. The early part of his life was spent in and around Rossiter, Pa., where as a young man, he was employed in the mines.

At the present there are six employees of Gaston Chevrolet, two of whom are sons of the proprietor: Christian J. Gaston, Clifton T. Gaston, Harry Jordan, Glenn C. McQuown, Howard Yohe, and Charles C. Bowers.



Gaston Chevrolet Garage, 211 South Gilpin Street



## HUNTER AND SONS

Hunter and Sons was founded by J. S. Hunter, Joseph M. Hunter, and W. Wayne Hunter in the year 1935. Selling used cars and maintaining a repair station, they established a garage at 205½ Dunlap Avenue, Punxsutawney, Penna. In the year 1940, the garage was moved to 508 East Mahoning Street. Mr. Hunter received the Hudson agency in 1945, and moved the garage to its present location, 539 East Mahoning Street, where they sell new and used cars and also operate a service department.

In 1947, the Hunters purchased Braebreeze Airport, at Marchand, seven miles south of Punxsutawney, where they instruct in aviation and buy and sell used and new airplanes.

On May 25, 1949, the Hunters established a Midget Race Track called the Braebreeze Airport Speedways, on the Braebreeze field, where they hold a midget race every Wednesday night.

## JEFFERSON GARAGE

The Jefferson Garage was built almost forty years ago by J. L. Fisher for his nephew, David McCormick. At that time, Mr. McCormick was the Buick dealer in Punxsutawney. At his death the business was managed by Richard Evans.

In the year 1928, the building was rented by M. C. Stewart of Ringgold for two years. Mr. Stewart had the Buick agency. Immediately following this, M. C. Sutter, former County Commissioner, conducted business there for a short time.

In the year 1931, the building was rented by John Galbraith and Steve Roney. Later, Mr. Galbraith bought the business proper for himself.

In 1944, the building was purchased from Mrs. David McCormick by the present occupants. Since then, it has been completely remodeled.

In the year 1936, it again became the home of the Buick.

In the beginning there were four persons employed. At the present time, there is a force of fifteen men.

## MENEELY MOTOR COMPANY

The Meneely Motor company was formed in January, 1946, by its present manager, J. Roy Meneely. The business started as a result of a fire that destroyed the McQuown Auto Co. on November 23, 1945.

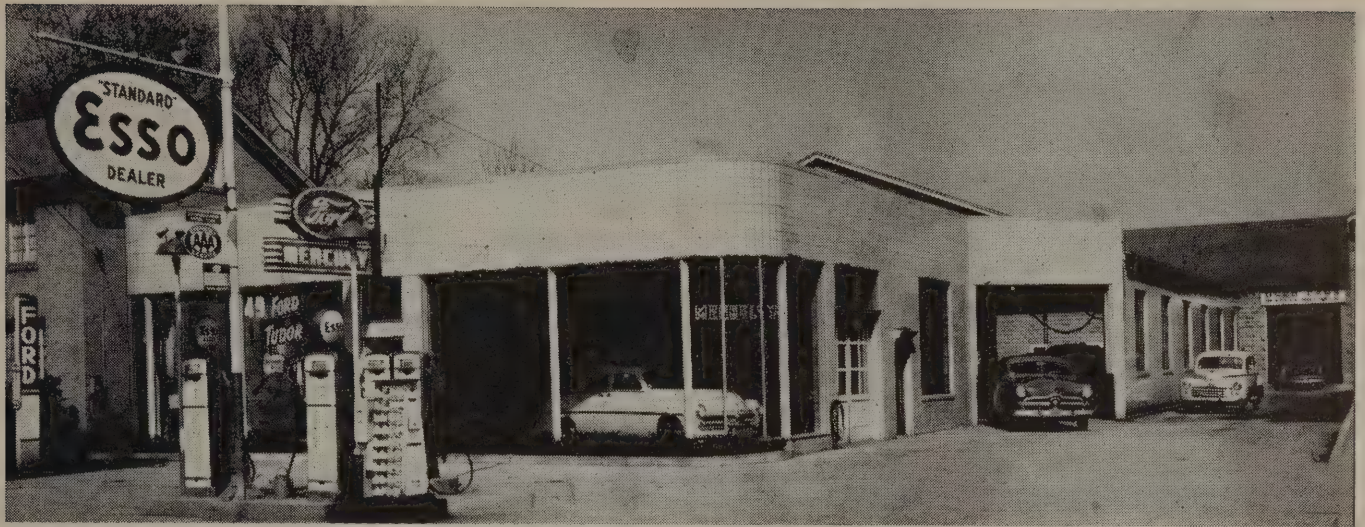
In the year 1910, S. C. McQuown and H. Ward McQuown took the agency for the Ford automobiles and trucks. In 1911, the McQuowns operated a garage on Front Street in a building which had formerly been owned by Milt Smith and used for a feed warehouse. They continued to use this building until 1915, when it became too small for their use.

They then bought the "Old Opera House," located at 409 East Mahoning Street, which was built in the year 1862 for Mr. Charley Fish by Reese Rodgers and Co., which is now known as the People's Planing Mill. This Opera House was used for show purposes until the time of the building of the present Jefferson Theatre, at which time it was con-



JEFFERSON GARAGE—Left to right: Charles Astorino, Raymond Long, Gabriel Falcons, Anthony Lorelli, William Galbraith, Clarence Rugh, Guy Smith, Albert Gibson, John Graul, Andrew Duminske, John Mikelonis, Charles Heitzenrater, John Galbraith, Thomas Galbraith, Harold Rugh.





Meneely Motor Company Garage—508 East Mahoning Street

verted into a skating ring, operated by Charles Park. The operation of the skating rink continued until a few years previous to the purchase of same by the McQuown Auto Co.

The 1936 flood damaged the building and contents to approximately \$5,000. There were fifty-two inches of water in the building at that time.

On November 23, 1945, the building was destroyed by fire. H. Ward McQuown, the only surviving member of the original McQuown Auto Co., decided to retire.

Mr. J. Roy Meneely, who had become a member of the McQuown Auto Co. in 1915, decided to continue the business under the name of Meneely Motor Company. During the month of December, 1945, the company was located at 538 East Mahoning Street. On December 31, 1945, the Meneely Motor Company purchased the building and lot located at 508 East Mahoning Street from Mrs. Simon Krause. The back portion of the building consisted of a steel frame building, formerly located in Elk Run, which was originally purchased from the Eldred Glass Co. and moved here by Mr. Krouse. The house on the front of the lot was the original Henry Ernest homestead, which had been moved from 506 East Mahoning Street. This house is one of the few original

houses still standing east of the Mahoning Creek. On April 14, 1947, this house was moved to 200 South Elk Street and converted into a duplex.

After moving this house from the lot, the Meneely Motor Co. began to build their modern show room, offices, and parts department. This building was completed July 3, 1947.

The Meneely Motor Co. operated as a partnership consisting of J. Roy Meneely, A. T. Patterson, and Clair L. Meneely from January to June 6, 1946, when it was incorporated with the following stockholders: J. Roy Meneely, Pearl Meneely, A. T. Patterson, Clair L. Meneely, and John C. Smith.

Meneely Motor Co., Inc., now serves Punxsutawney and the surrounding community with its complete line of Ford cars, Mercury cars, and Ford trucks. Also the modern paint shop and car storage cement block building 50x160 was added to the company's facilities during the summer of 1948.

## NASH GARAGE

Punxsutawney Nash Motors was founded by Clay T. Kanouff, who came to Punxsutawney from Ju-neau, Pa., where he and his brother operated a garage, known as Kanouff Brothers, which was started



Punxsutawney Nash Motors Garage—512 East Mahoning Street



in 1917. The car they sold was the Briscoe.

In 1918, when World War I started, Clay T. Kanouff joined the armed forces and served with the Second Division overseas. Returning home in 1919, he took up the garage business again.

Coming to Punxsutawney in 1921, he started a garage on Elk Street, known as the Elk Street Garage, where he handled the Earl automobile and later the Gray. In 1924, he signed the contract for the Nash.

In 1922, Mr. Kanouff and Miss Sallie Mae Lunger were united in marriage. Mrs. Kanouff is a graduate nurse, class of 1918 from the Punxsutawney Hospital. They went to housekeeping on Elk Street in the apartment above the garage, which they purchased from Silas Rimer.

In 1928 they purchased the Continental Hotel building at 512 East Mahoning Street, which was razed, and on that location constructed the present building. The name was changed from Elk Street Garage to the present name. They also signed a contract with the Sun Oil Company in 1928 to handle their gas and oils. At present, there are nine men employed.

### NICHOLSON MOTORS

Nicholson Motors of 1001 West Mahoning Street was purchased in October, 1944, from the late W. H. Harmon, known as the Harmon Company.

J. W. Nicholson and son J. H. Nicholson are the present operators and first sold the Chrysler and Plymouth cars. Later they handled the Kaiser-Frazer. During the scarcity of cars, they handled used cars, parts, and accessories.

The building housing the Nicholson Motors was built by the late James S. Lockard.

### RUBIN'S INC.

Mr. Ben Rubin with his wife and two oldest children came to this community in 1918 from Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Rubin opened a repair shop which was a wooden building measuring 50x60 on the site where his new modern garage now stands. Besides operating a repair shop, he sold tires, tubes, and parts, and later installed gasoline pumps for the convenience of his customers. The building was heated by the traditional "pot-belly" stove around which his rural customers swapped news and argued politics while warming themselves before starting home on the cold winter days.

In 1930 Mr. Rubin acquired the franchise for Oldsmobile automobiles and so added a sales department to a growing concern. In 1934 he acquired the franchise for General Motors Trucks which range in size from one-half ton pickups and panels to the largest Deisel model on the road today. In 1937 he had the good fortune to acquire the Cadillac franchise, one of the largest selling automobiles in its field.

The flood of March 17, 1936, was a source of great concern and grief to Mr. Rubin as it was to most merchants in Punxsutawney. With seven and one-half feet of water in the building covering forty cars, his entire parts stock and all of his equipment, Mr. Rubin sat on the railroad tracks overlooking the scene from Tuesday evening until Thursday afternoon without food or nourishment, feeling that he was indeed "wiped out." But after a few days he started to work with renewed vigor and his business expanded until in 1947 he completed a new tile building measuring 100x150 with a spacious well lighted showroom, a large well lighted up-to-date service department, and a well stocked parts department. This building, faced with green and black carrara glass, is one of the most outstanding garages in this section of the state.



Rubin's Garage—544 West Mahoning Street



## TRONZO'S GARAGE

Like most business establishments in Punxsutawney, Tronzo's Garage has a history that tells of a struggle in the climb up the ladder of success. The success story in this case is that of Mick Tronzo, who since 1933 has owned and managed this automobile garage.



Tronzo's Garage—219 North Penn Street

Mick considers himself the oldest body and fender expert in Punxsutawney. During his four years in high school, Mick worked not only after, but also before school, at Freas Brothers' Garage. After graduating, Mick initiated a body and fender shop at Freas' thereby establishing the first of its kind in Punxsutawney. After six years of successfully operating this new business, Mick decided to risk a shop of his own.

In the heat of July and the depression of 1933, Mick found himself pounding out fenders for his own profit in a little shop behind what is now the Frank S. Jackson school building. One year later Mick moved into the Chambers' Livery Stable which has an interesting bit of history itself.

Dave Chambers operated one of the finest livery stables in town. In 1913 Punxsutawney had one of its biggest fires when the old wooden stable burned to the ground. However, business was resumed the following year in a new brick building which today houses the Studebaker agency.

From 1936 to the present postwar period of Studebaker leadership in automobile design, Mick has held the agency. With the exception of a time-out-for-war interval from 1942 to 1946, Mick leased the building to Penway Lanes for a bowling concession and later to Mr. John Harvey for a small war plant. Mick went on to enlist in the Glider Corps of the Airborne Division. At Lubbock, Texas, Mick graduated as glider pilot at Christmas time in 1943. He served as instructor at Little Rock, Arkansas. In January, 1946, Mick re-established his Studebaker agency and body shop.

With such an admirable history Tronzo's Garage will be certain to continue to be one of Punxsutawney's growing business establishments.

## AUTO REPAIR - BRAKE LINING

### COLLIER'S BRAKE LINING COMPANY

W. W. Collier, the proprietor of Collier's Brake Lining Co., operates his main plant in Pittsburgh. This business was founded by him on July 15, 1946. Ray Steffy is the manager of the Punxsutawney branch, located at 601 E. Mahoning Street.

### WHITEMAN'S CHASSIS ALIGNMENT

Whiteman's Chassis Alignment and repair shop was moved from Big Run to Punxsutawney into the Baumgartner building on Union Street in 1923. At that time, R. V. Whiteman and I. G. Pifer did business under the name of The Union Motor Company. In the spring of 1924 Whiteman bought out Mr. Pifer. The Union Motor Co. was an agency for the Hudson, Essex, Durant and Star cars. Later in 1924 car sales were turned over to Mr. G. B. Marshall. Service, parts, and general garage work were under the supervision of the owner, R. V. Whiteman. In July, 1927 Mr. Marshall moved to another location but Whiteman kept the agency for Durant and Star cars. In 1930 the Durant and car cars when out of business because of the stock market crash. Again Mr. Whiteman sold Hudson and Essex cars. He kept up this business until 1933 when distributors in Pittsburgh, Pa., went out of business. In 1933 the repair shop, which included chassis and wheel alignment, was moved into the Jefferson Garage Building. The loss of parts and accessories during the 1936 flood amounted to approximately \$8,000. On Dec. 12, 1947, the business was moved to a building at the rear of the New Library which is located at 217½ W. Mahoning St. The name was changed to Whiteman's Chassis Alignment. New frame and axle straightening machinery, wheel alignment, and wheel balancing equipment were installed. The heavy duty bus and truck frame straightening and wheel alignment machinery is the only such machinery between Buffalo, New York and Pittsburgh, Pa.

## AUTO SERVICE STATIONS

### ATLANTIC SERVICE STATION

The Atlantic Service Station, which is located at 300 East Mahoning Street, was founded by the Atlantic Refining Co. on July 2, 1930. The first manager was William Overturf, who operated the station from 1930-1936. It is now operated by Earl Weiss, Harold Bish and Carl Dinger. Mr. Weiss and Mr. Bish have been associated with the station since 1936, but Mr. Dinger is a newcomer to the enterprise.

The station was somewhat damaged by the 1936 flood, when flood water reached the height of three feet in the office.

### CHAPMAN'S SERVICE STATION

Chapman's Service Station was built in 1928 by John A. Chapman, the present owner and manager. It is located at 405 North Main Street.

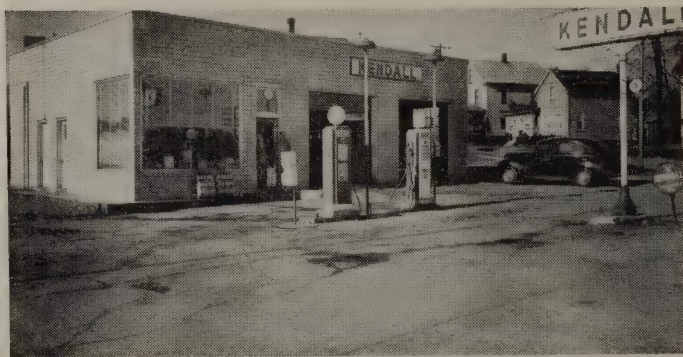




KENDALL SERVICE CENTER—Corner Indiana and South Gilpin Streets



Kendall Service Station—549 West Mahoning Street



Kendall Service Station—Elk Run

## KENDALL SERVICE CENTER

The Kendall Service Center on the corner of Gilpin and Indiana Streets was constructed by Delaney Brothers of DuBois in 1947. Its first operator was Phil Kester. In 1948 Ken Fetterman became the manager. The original owner of this property was Frederick Fisher, who built the first drive-in service station at this location in 1946. The building was razed in 1947 to make way for the new modern station which now occupies the site.

## KENDALL SERVICE STATION

The Kendall Service Station, 549 West Mahoning Street, was erected in 1930 by the Kendall Refining Co. of Bradford, Pa. It was first operated by James Simmons, of DuBois, Pa. In 1945 the management was taken over by Noah Treharne, Jr. Al Anibaldi became the manager in 1948. The large panel glass window has been twice broken by windstorms.

The cost of replacing the window each time was from three to four hundred dollars. The land was originally purchased from A. L. Light. The station was first called Kanouff Sunoco Station, then Kendall Oil Company, and now Kendall Service Station.

## KENDALL STATION, ELK RUN

The Elk Run Service Station, which is owned by the Delaney Brothers of DuBois, is operated by John Maloney. The original structure was built by Frederick Fisher. In 1945 Delaney Brothers purchased the property. The present station was erected in 1947.

## KENGERSKY'S SERVICE STATION

Edward F. Kengersy, the present owner of the engersky Service Station, located at 1028 West Mahoning Street, bought the station from William Decker May 15, 1947.



## BAUN'S SERVICE STATION

The service station, which is now operated by Loyal Baun, was founded by the Sterling Oil Company in 1928. Mr. Baun took the station over in January of the year 1946. The station had been under the management of Charles Smith, who succeeded Charles Snyder. The station is located at 211 Front Street.

## PATSY DEFELICE AND SONS

The service station located at 588 West Mahoning Street was opened in 1939 by Merle Neville, who managed it until 1942. After the Atlantic Refining Co. had the business for about a year and a half, it was taken over by Patsy DeFelice and Sons, the present managers.

## ALEX FRECEONE GARAGE

The Alex Freceone Garage was founded in 1933 on Indiana Street by Alex Freceone and Staley. The present owner is Alex Freceone. The garage was moved from Indiana Street to 911 West Mahoning Street in 1936. The 1936 flood damage amounted to about \$500.

## J. M. GUTELIUS SERVICE STATION

The J. M. Gutelius Service Station is the outgrowth of one of the community's oldest businesses. It was founded in 1889 as a wagon and buggy factory and sales agency by Jacob Gutelius, who was succeeded by his son Harry C. Gutelius, who in turn was succeeded by his son, James M. Gutelius, the present owner.

The business, located at 222 Front Street, sells auto accessories in addition to gasoline and oil.

## HANDEL'S SERVICE STATION

Handel's Service Station, located at 128 Ridge Ave., was founded by John Handel on August 10, 1923. The station then specialized in batteries and battery service but deals in complete automobile service at present. The station had a robbery in 1928. The night after the robbery, the robbers, who made a second attempt, were caught in the act of taking tires. The station is owned and operated by John Handel.

## LENTZ SUNOCO STATION

Lentz Sunoco Station was established in 1930 on the corner of Pine and N. Gilpin Sts. by John J. Lentz, the present owner and manager. In 1939 the garage was moved to its present location, 805 W. Mahoning St.

## PALMER'S SERVICE STATION

Palmer's Service Station was opened in September, 1943, by W. D. Palmer. It is located on South Main Street.

## THE PENZOIL SERVICE STATION

The Penzoil Service Station, located at 110 Indiana St., is a branch of the Penzoil Company in Oil City, Pa. Joseph Poydock has been the manager since 1944.



Lellock's Service Station—Route 36

## LELLOC'S SERVICE

Lellock's Service was opened in 1946 by Thelma and John Lellock, the present owners. It was damaged by lightning in 1947. The business, which is located on the Punx'y-McGees Road across from Floyd Smith's antique shop, was started as a service station. It is being enlarged to include a lunch room.

## MILLER'S GULF SERVICE STATION

Miller's Gulf Service Station was built by J. L. Fisher about 1923. Shortly after, the Gulf Company bought it. During the 1936 flood there were approximately seven feet of water in the garage. The present service station, 116 Indiana St., was built in 1938, is under the management of Clark A. Miller.

## SMOUSE'S SERVICE STATION

Smouse's Service Station was taken over October 15, 1947, by George Smouse. It was formerly Cole's Service Station. The building, located at 419 Ridge Avenue, is owned by Tony Chase.

## STALEY'S SERVICE STATION

Staley's Service Station, owned and managed by Walter Staley, was started in July, 1946. Ever since, it has been in business at the same location, 532 N. Main St.

## TREHARNE BROTHERS

M. N. and John Treharne established their business May 15, 1907, at 246 Front Street. They carried on trade chiefly with the railroaders.

The store was a two-roomed building purchased from Mr. Rumbarger, who had previously run the business. Before the store had been built or the railroad constructed, a tannery, operated by J. A. McConnell, had been located there.

When the Treharne Brothers started their business, they used one of their rooms for a ware room. As business increased, they found it necessary to build an addition. They then built a second story, using it as a ware room. In later years they built a tile ware room. Business progressed rapidly despite the death of one of the brothers, John, in 1914. A nephew, Thomas Treharne, then became associated with the business. During the war in 1944 the store was closed.

On December 1, 1947, Thomas Treharne opened a service station on the store's former site.

In 1918, the Treharne Brothers established a store on West Mahoning Street in the building formerly



occupied by the Ralph A. Mehring store. It was managed by E. Treharne until 1920, at which time W. Treharne became manager. After William Treharne's death, his wife and two sons ran the store for several years. The store was closed about 1928.

### THE WOLFE BROTHERS' GARAGE

The Wolfe Brothers' Garage is located on Grafius Avenue in Elk Run. The garage was founded in September of the year 1919 by John H. Wolfe and Charles S. Wolfe, brothers, who own and operate the garage. The business has increased considerably.

Sixty years ago, the iron works site was filled with butternut trees.

## BAKERIES

### COLONIAL BISCUIT COMPANY

The Colonial Biscuit Company was opened in 1931 by D. R. Thomas as branch manager. It is located at 102 Cedar Street. It was formerly located in the Crivella Building and six years in the Kurtz Building. There are five employees in the Punxsutawney Branch Store. One truck is operated which covers a circular area of 50 miles.

### DUNMIRE'S BAKERY

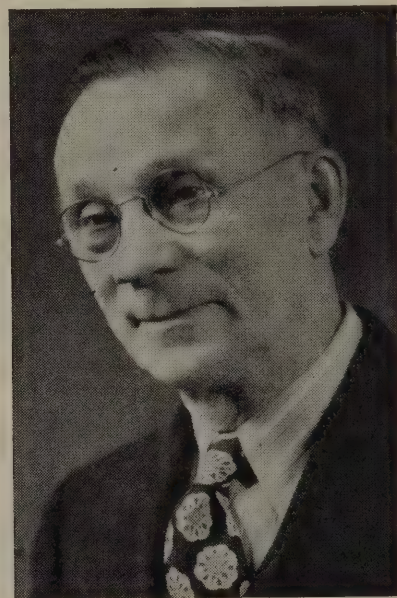
Dunmire's Bakery was started in 1933 in the Eagles' building. They remained there for two years, and



Plant of the Punxsutawney Baking Co., Inc.—246 Pine Street

### PUNXSUTAWNEY BAKING CO., INC.

The Punxsutawney Baking Company, Inc., was established at 225 North Findley Street, by Charles L. North on July 21, 1933. Because of a steady increase in business, it was necessary to move to larger quarters. On August 1, 1936, the Punxsutawney Baking Company was moved to the present location, 246 Pine Street. Today it is one of the most modern wholesale bakeries in Western Pennsylvania. Mr. North still owns and operates the business.



CHARLES L. NORTH  
President  
and General Manager



ESTHER N. WHITAKER  
Secretary-Treasurer  
and Office Manager



DONALD W. CRAIG  
Sales Manager



HENRY L. FERA  
Production Superintendent



then the bakery was moved to 331 East Mahoning Street which is its present location. The bakery is under the management of Blair Dunmire.

### THE ELK RUN BAKERY

The Elk Run Bakery was established in 1931, at the corner of Graffius and Elk Run Avenue, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. J. Boyd Smith. Since then the building has undergone many changes. After the flood of 1936, which caused \$800 damages, a restaurant and ice cream bar were added.

In September of 1945, Paul R. Smith, son of the proprietor, opened a watch repair shop in the east side of the building on Graffius Avenue. Three apartments have also been added to the building since the founding of the Elk Run Bakery in 1931.

### MACKENZIE BAKERY

The MacKenzie Bakery was started in 1933 by Harry MacKenzie as a house to house route with the use of one truck. During the 1936 flood he delivered on Church Street, Maple Avenue, West Mahoning, and Pine Street in a row boat. On July 4, 1948, he opened a bakery at 303 East Mahoning Street. Now (1949) he operates four trucks and employs twelve people. He still operates his house-to-house delivery.

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## BARBER SHOPS

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### BRENNAN'S BARBER SHOP

Brennan's Barber Shop is located at 236 West Mahoning Street. It was first founded at 112 West Mahoning Street on July 16, 1918, by Earl Harry Brennan. This establishment has been owned and managed by Earl H. Brennan since it was first founded. The manager has been a barber since 1904.

### CARULLI'S BARBER SHOP

Carulli's Barber Shop, located on West Mahoning Street, was taken over in March, 1948, by Joe Carulli, the present proprietor.

### EAST END BARBER SHOP

The East End Barber Shop, located on the northeast corner of East Mahoning and Elk Street, was founded in 1924 by Sam Barr. George Henry took over the shop after Sam Barr's death. Tony Bonacci has been operating the barber shop since November 5, 1948. Tony came from Chambersville, Pa., where he had worked as a barber.

### EVANS' BARBER SHOP

Evans' Barber Shop was founded in 1912 by Howard A. Evans. It was first located at 306 East Mahoning Street; in 1928 it was moved to the Waverly Hotel which was on the northwest corner of East Mahoning and Penn Streets; in September, 1944, to 97 North Gilpin Street. Howard Edgar Evans, who began his apprenticeship under his father in 1934, became the proprietor in 1948.

### EDDIE'S BARBER SHOP

Eddie's Barber Shop has been operated by Edward McGinnis since 1938. It is located at 586 West Mahoning Street.

### JOE'S BARBER SHOP

Joe's Barber Shop at 208½ Elk Run Avenue was founded in 1933 by Joseph T. Vilella. The shop suffered \$300.00 damage in the 1936 flood, when the water was three feet deep in the shop.

### LLOYD'S BARBER SHOP

Walter L. Lloyd founded a barber shop in 1928 at 362 West Mahoning Street. During the 1936 flood, the barber shop was damaged by eight feet, eight inches of water. In 1943 the water rose to a height of three feet. Mr. Lloyd now operates a shop on Gilpin Street.

### MEANS BARBER SHOP

The Means Barber Shop, which is located in the Pantall Hotel building at the southwest corner of Jefferson and Mahoning Streets, was established sixty years ago by Arthur Bulduc.

He sold the shop to Al Brown, who in turn sold it to Mike Brown. The latter began a partnership with Frank Grube. After the death of these men, the establishment was operated by Bob and John Brown, sons of Mike Brown. Later F. C. Means bought the barber shop. Since his death, the proprietor has been Paul C. Means.

### PULEIO BARBER SHOP

Puleio's Barber Shop, which is located at 218 North Findley Street, was founded in 1928. The first proprietors were Weaver and McAninch. The present proprietor, Peter Puleio, purchased the shop from Mrs. Weaver in 1934. The shop had 12 inches of water during the 1936 flood. The shop, which has three chairs, has one employe, Gabriel M. Chioppetto.

### THE SANITARY BARBER SHOP

The Sanitary Barber Shop, which is forty-seven years old, is one of the oldest barber shops in Punxsutawney. It was first operated by Cesarios. About a year ago, the Sanitary Barber Shop became the property of the Barber brothers, who had learned the trade in an apprentice school.

### THE GEORGE SHIREY BARBER SHOP

The George Shirey Barber Shop was founded in 1934 by George Shirey. It still occupies its original location in the Y.M.C.A. Building at 119 North Findley Street. In the flood of 1936, the owners, George Shirey and Jim Himes, lost all equipment and furnishings.

### SPINELLI'S BARBER SHOP

Spinelli's Barber Shop was founded in 1944 by Joseph J. Spinelli, who is the present owner. It is located at 222 East Mahoning St.



## BEAUTY SHOPS

### THE BEAUTY NOOK

The Beauty Nook was begun in May, 1947, by Louise Ferringer, the present proprietor. It is located at 210 North Main Street.

### THE BOWSER BEAUTY SHOP

The Bowser Beauty Shop was opened on September 17, 1946. The shop was first located in the Kaufman Building. It was moved on October 23, 1948, to the Benton and Bley Building, 125 West Mahoning Street.

### BUDGET BEAUTY SHOP

The Budget Beauty Shop was founded June 14, 1948, by Mrs. Floyd Baun. It is located at 210 West Mahoning Street above Hamilton's Pharmacy. The present director of the beauty shop is Peggy Henry.

### FLO'S BEAUTY SHOP

Flo's Beauty Shop, which was founded in 1936 by Florence M. Manfredo at 708 East Mahoning Street, is still (1949) operated at the same address under the same management.

### SARAH HOMAN'S BEAUTY SHOP

Sarah Homan's Beauty Shop is located at 586 West Mahoning Street. In February, 1946 Sarah Homan took over the shop from Lucille Phillips, who had operated it four years.

### KENNARD BEAUTY SHOP

The Kennard Beauty Shop was established in 1926 by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kennard. It had been located in the Park Building for three and one-half years when it was moved to 119 West Mahoning Street, which is its present (1949) address. The manager of the beauty shop is Mrs. Kennard.

### LAVENDER BEAUTY SHOP

The Lavender Beauty Shop (which opened October 22, 1927, was founded by Mrs. D. E. Wells, the former Lillian Fetterman. She worked alone until January 1, 1928, when she hired one operator. The first location of the beauty shop was on the second floor of the Hill and Feicht Building, 132 E. Mahoning Street in rooms now used by the Jordan Furniture Store.

The beauty shop grew gradually. By 1937 there were eight operators and a secretary employed by Miss Fetterman. At first all the furniture was painted lavender. In 1936, however, all new Mode Craft booths and furniture were installed. On August 30, 1937, the beauty shop moved across the street to the Pantall Hotel Building, and into the rooms now occupied by Harl's Shoe Store, 129 E. Mahoning St. In 1939 it moved to its present location, in the Winter Building, 103 S. Findley Street.

Miss Ruth Shirley, who began to work in the shop in June, 1933 as an operator, became manager and its present owner.

### MARY'S BEAUTY SALON

Mary's Beauty Salon was founded in July 1947 by Mary Gualtieri, who is still the proprietor. The building is located at 310 East Mahoning Street. Mary runs the shop for both profit and pleasure.

### MITCHELL'S BEAUTY SALON

Mitchell's Beauty Salon was established in 1937 by Bessie and Ray Mitchell. A partnership between Miss Mitchell and Clara D'Orazio began in February, 1942. In 1949 Betty Hilton bought out Miss D'Orazio's partnership. The shop is located in the McCrory Building on West Mahoning Street.

### RUTH'S BEAUTY SALON

Ruth's Beauty Salon was founded November 17, 1947, by Ruth Markle, a graduate of Baun School of Beauty Culture in Indiana, Pennsylvania. The salon is located at 109½ Elk Run Avenue.

### SUTTER'S BEAUTY SHOP

The Sutter Beauty Shop is located at 233 West Mahoning Street. It was founded in 1923 by Arnold D. Sutter and was then situated in the Shields Building. The present director of the beauty shop is Margaret Sutter.

Its main features are hair styling, permanent waving, and all the different lines of beauty culture.

### VOGUE BEAUTY SALON

The Vogue Beauty Salon was founded on June 30, 1933 by Rose Crivella. It was located in the Jones Building, 131 West Mahoning Street. The salon occupied this location for seven years; then it was moved to its present location, 266 North Findley Street.

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## BEVERAGES

### COLD SPRING BOTTLING COMPANY

This beverage business, now known as Cold Spring Bottling Company, was founded in March, 1901, by Henry Luhring and Harry J. Lattimer and operated under the name of Luhring and Lattimer and located in New Bethlehem, Pa.

The business was first located in the Dr. S. S. Hamilton Building on North Findley Street, which was destroyed in the big Findley Street fire on September 15, 1903. In 1904, after the fire, Mr. Lattimer located at 526 Graffius Avenue; and the business was operated by him until 1918 when a partnership was formed with his son, Harry R. Lattimer, who now owns and operates the plant.

Until the year 1933, a full line of soft drinks was bottled and distributed. Since that time only two franchised drinks have been bottled; i. e., 7-Up and Dr. Nut. These drinks have been distributed in Jefferson, Indiana, Clearfield and Elk Counties.

### FLECK'S BEVERAGE COMPANY

Fleck's Beverage Company, believed to be the oldest business of its kind in this section of the state,



dates back to 1890, when it was started by William Shields, and known as the Shields Bottling Company.

In 1899 the business was bought by Thomas Fleckenstein. Four years later he sold it to B. J. and Edward Fleckenstein, who ran it for about twenty years; first, as the Punxsutawney Bottling Works, then, as Fleckenstein Brothers. Their business radius covered about fifteen miles, which they served for many years with a team of horses and a wagon. In 1910 they purchased a MacIntyre truck, the first delivery truck to be used in Punxsutawney.

About 1920 B. J. Fleckenstein bought out his brother, Edward, and ran the business under the name of Cherry Blossom Bottling Works. He successfully operated it until about 1935, when tiring of the business, he left it to his two sons, John and Justin. One of their earliest setbacks in the business was the 1936 flood, which swept about nine feet of water and mud into the plant.

In 1939 the company took on the drink, "Squirt," which was to spell success and expansion for the firm. When the war came, Justin enlisted in the Army Air Corps, and John was left at home to carry on, with sugar rationing and hardly enough sugar to sweeten his own coffee.

In 1945, Francis, after a few years in the U. S. Navy, became the third member of the now Fleck's Beverage Company, located at 535 Mulberry Avenue. After the end of sugar rationing the sparks really flew and the wheels again began to turn.

Today, the firm boasts of four of the latest type delivery trucks, a fifteen-mile radius concern, and the fact that they serve four counties. It employs twelve or more persons during peak season.

#### JEFFERSON BOTTLING WORKS

The Jefferson Bottling Works was founded in 1911 by John M. Kendra as the Crown Bottling Works. The name was changed when the business moved from 112 S. Chestnut Street to its present location at 562 W. Mahoning Street in 1919. The business is still owned by John M. Kendra.

### BOTTLED GAS

#### BELLS MILLS TRADING POST

Bells Mills Trading Post, located 2½ miles north of Punxsutawney on Route 119, was established in 1938 by James A. Organ. In addition to operating a service station, groceries, ice cream, soft drinks and confectioneries are sold.

Mr. Organ is the pioneer dealer in bottled gas in Jefferson County, starting in 1938 with one customer,



Bells Mills Trading Post—2½ Miles North on Route 119.

he now services hundreds of homes located beyond the natural gas mains.

#### VALLEY GAS SERVICE

The Valley Gas Service of 406 Indiana Street, Punxsutawney, Pa., came into being September 10, 1946. It is located on the old Nordstrom Brick Yard lot, on Indiana Street. The building used now by the Valley Gas Service is the small red brick building formerly used as the oil house for the Nordstrom Brick Yard.

The Valley Gas Service is owned and operated by Robert R. Harvey, of Indiana Street. The territory covered by this business is Jefferson, Clearfield, Armstrong counties, and the townships of Canoe and Banks of Indiana County. Armstrong County is operating under the name of Riverside Gas Service, but is a branch of Valley Gas Service of Punxsutawney.

This business provides bottled fuel for ranges, refrigerators and automatic water heating for homes beyond the gas mains.

### CLOTHING STORES Boys' and Men's Wear

#### JULIUS ABELMAN AND SON

Julius Abelman and Son was founded in 1921 by Julius Abelman at 236 North Findley Street. The store dealt in wholesale furnishings until 1931 when it was moved to 106 East Mahoning Street, and retail furnishings were added. In the 1936 flood the store suffered \$7,000 damage. About 1939 it was moved to 104 East Mahoning Street. The wholesale business was moved to 236 North Findley Street in July, 1948. Julius Abelman is the proprietor of the retail store; the wholesale business is managed by Fred Abelman.

#### ALBERT'S

Albert's Men's Shop, located at 125 E. Mahoning St., was founded in 1890 by Mal H. Morris and his brother. Five years later, in 1901, Mr. Morris





The Swartz Building—Mahoning at Findley Street.

bought his brother's interest. Albert Greenblatt, the present owner of the business, purchased the store from Ned L. Brown in March, 1946. During the 1936 flood, the store was damaged to the amount of \$500.00. The store, which is now (1949) operating under the name of Albert's Men's Shop, handles men's and boys' clothing.

### JACOBSON'S STORE

Jacobsons which deals in men's clothing, was established in 1911 on North Findley Street, under the management of Louis Jacobson. In 1921 the business moved to 115 East Mahoning St., which is its present location. The store was robbed on July 4, 1948. Louis Jacobson is the present manager of the store.

### QUINLISK'S MEN'S WEAR

Quinlisk's Men's Wear, 120 W. Mahoning St., was founded in 1922 by Wm. Quinlisk. The establishment has never changed hands and is still operated by the founder.

### SWARTZ'S MEN'S STORE

In the year 1885, E. S. Swartz, Sr., came to Punxsutawney, after learning the tailoring trade in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, and started in business in a frame building situated on the southeast corner of

West Mahoning and South Gilpin Streets, where the present J. C. Penney store is now located. Here he began the measuring, cutting, trimming, and tailoring (all by hand) of suits and overcoats for gentlemen. His rental at this initial site was the sum of \$5 a month.

Within a five year period, this young business found its first home entirely too small and inadequate, so in 1890, Mr. Swartz, Sr., erected a building at 109 East Mahoning Street to house his expanding interests. This structure, now occupied by the Smart Shop, contained his tailoring shop on the ground floor and an apartment on the second floor, which was tenanted by the Swartz family. The building, of brick construction and including one of the earliest central heating units to be placed in town, was erected at a total cost of less than \$8,000.

After twenty years in this second location, Mr. Swartz, Sr., at the demise of John A. Weber in 1910, purchased the John A. Weber store located at the site of the present Swartz Building on the northwest corner of West Mahoning and North Findley Streets. Here he augmented his tailoring business with complete lines of men's ready-to-wear clothing, furnishings( and shoes. Shortly after this third move, changes in the men's wear field appeared on the horizon with the result that he gradually expanded into the present day setup and discontinued the hand tailoring of men's clothes in the late 1920's.



In 1935 after twenty-five years in the present Swartz Building with a continuous record of fifty years serving the good people of Punxsutawney and vicinity, Mr. Swartz, Sr., disposed of his interests to his son, E. S. Swartz, Jr., who today is still operating one of the oldest commercial establishments in this section that has been kept in the immediate family of the original founder.

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## Girls' and Women's Wear

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### CHILDREN'S SHOP

The Children's Shop was opened December 8, 1945, by Mario J. Gigliotti. It was first located in the Park Building, 303 East Mahoning St. On December 6, 1947, it was moved to 128 West Mahoning Street. This store sells children's wearing apparel exclusively for tots to teens. During National Baby Week, it sponsors the Lucky Punxsutawney Baby, who is given a loving cup. On a larger cup, which is kept in the window of the store, are inscribed the names of the babies who have won the contest. The Children's Shop also sponsors National Hospital Week in conjunction with the Adrian Hospital Association.

### THE GEORGE FASHION SHOPPE

The George Fashion Shoppe was founded in 1909 by Mrs. Joe Sink, nee Mae Wall. It was originally located in which is now the Hamilton Building on West Mahoning Street, and was one of the most exclusive hat shops in town. After being moved several times the business was located in the Dick Building. In 1926 the shop was sold to Miss Golden George, the present owner, who was at that time teaching geography and history in the Punxsutawney Junior High School. To distinguish the new ownership from the old, Miss George changed the name to the George Fashion Shoppe. Miss George was forced because of increase in business, however, to move first to 120 West Mahoning Street and then to her present location at 112 North Findley Street. This last building was purchased by Miss George in March, 1947.

### JAYNELL SHOP

The Jaynell Shop, which is located at 121 West Mahoning Street, is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Leo Farber, of Brooklyn, New York. The present manager is Ora N. Evans. The store, which handles women's clothing, was damaged slightly by the 1936 flood.

### THE KATHERINE NOONAN STORE

The Katherine Noonan Store was established in August 1913 as the "Noonan Millinery Store" in the old Fink Building, where the Jones Furniture Store now stands at 131 West Mahoning Street. When the Fink Building was razed to provide space for the new structure, the Noonan Store moved to the building erected by the late Thomas E. Bennis on the Southeast corner of Findley Street and Farmer's Alley. Upon the additions of women's and misses' dresses to the millinery line, and because of the expansion of business, this firm moved to its present

location at 114 West Mahoning Street. Additional types of merchandise were added at that time until now complete lines of coats, suits, dresses, furs, hats, sportswear, and accessories are carried in this shop.

### A. G. ROSENTHAL

The A. G. Rosenthal Clothing Store was founded March 15, 1906, by A. G. Rosenthal, who is still active as the general manager. It started as a small retail women's and children's wear shop in the store-room now occupied by Nolph's. Five years later, the firm moved opposite Barclay Square into the room now occupied by Constanzo's Grocery Store, 206 East Mahoning Street. In 1915, they moved to the present site, 117 East Mahoning Street. They purchased this building and the adjoining one in 1919. In 1922, since the business had so greatly increased, it was found necessary to occupy both buildings. This business has shown a steady growth during the forty-three years of its existence. At the present, it is the oldest establishment of its kind in Punxsutawney. This firm weathered the business depressions of 1907, 1920, and the major one of 1929-1934. The 1936 flood brought 27 inches of water to the main floor, but fortunately the merchandise had been moved in time to prevent any great loss.

### SMART SHOP

The Smart Shop, which is located at 109 East Mahoning Street, is owned by Mr. A. Pete. The building in which the store is located, was erected in 1890 by E. S. Swartz. It was not damaged in the flood of 1936.

Business has increased in recent years and there has been an addition of one floor.

### HELEN W. WALTER STORE

The Helen Walter Store, located at 208 West Mahoning Street, was opened September 13, 1940. It is a ladies' specialty shop, catering to girls and women of all ages. The shop features coats, dresses, hats, lingerie, and all accessories for discriminating women.

Distinctive styles make the store an attractive place for women who like chic, outstanding fashions at a moderate price.

Helen Walter Clark, the founder and owner of the store, is a native of Milton, Pa., a graduate of Bucknell University, and has had twenty years experience in Philadelphia where she bought women's wear at Strawbridge and Clothier and B. F. Dewees.

The shop employs three clerks over whom Miss Effa Meneely is manager. Miss Meneely, a native of Valier, was employed at the John B. Bair Store and Murray's Department Store for many years and has been with the Helen W. Walter Store since its opening. She is an experienced sales woman and expert milliner.

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Punxsutawney's streets evolved from mud, to plank, to brick, to concrete. When planks, placed on edge, were used a rainy day brought fountains of mud and water squirting up through the cracks between the planks, and splinters were the chief abomination of barefoot youngsters.



## Department Stores

### MONTGOMERY WARD AND COMPANY

Montgomery Ward and Company was founded in 1872 by A. Montgomery Ward as a mail order house. The first Ward's catalog was a single page mailing piece sent to a small list of prospective customers. In 1926 an experiment was made with display stores where customers could look at the merchandise and order it. They insisted on buying it across the counter. The success of Ward's first retail stores led to the growth of the present organization of over 600 retail stores employing over 80,000 people. The Punxsutawney store was opened in 1928 and has operated at its present location at the southeast corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets for 20 years. During the flood of 1936 water rose to a height of almost three feet on the main floor. After the flood the third floor, which had been used as warehouse space, was remodeled and used as sales space because of increased business. Ward's now has four floors of selling space and a large outside warehouse to take care of the needs of its customers in this area.

### J. C. PENNEY CO.

The J. C. Penney Co., located on the southeast corner of West Mahoning and Gilpin Streets, opened a store in August of 1928 under the management of Joseph G. Puchner. During the 1936 flood, the water, which was above the counters, caused extensive damage. In July of 1946, Mr. Vaughn Spencer became manager of the store. He was then replaced by the present manager, Mr. F. L. Owen, in April of 1948.

### SEARS ROEBUCK AND COMPANY

Sears Roebuck and Co. established their first store in Punxsutawney on July 19, 1940. The location was on East Mahoning Street. On December 10, 1943, the business was moved to 118 West Mahoning Street.

Mary Quinlisk was the first and is the present manager of the establishment.

## CONFECTIONERS

### BARLETTA'S PALACE OF SWEETS

Barletta's Palace of Sweets was founded in 1920 by Peter Barletta, who still is the proprietor. The only damage to Barletta's Palace of Sweets, caused by the 1936 flood, was the destruction of the linoleum on the floor. Since 1921 the store front has been changed three times. Instead of being turned into a restaurant, Barletta's Palace of Sweets has remained a confectionery store, where ice cream and candy are sold.

### JERKO'S STORE

Mr. Peter J. Jerko bought what used to be the J. R. Davis Confectionery on July 23, 1942. The history of the J. R. Davis Confectionery Store is an interesting one.

John Parsons built the two-story brick building at 1008-1010 West Mahoning Street in 1891. It contains two store rooms and two apartments.

The store room at 1010 West Mahoning Street was first occupied by Neal Morris' clothing store. Later Mr. Brady had a confectionery store there.

In April, 1901, John R. Davis moved his restaurant and confectionery store to this location from a frame building at 1012 West Mahoning Street, where he had started his business in 1896. Davis' store, or "Jack's," (as it was familiarly called by young and old alike) became one of the most popular stores in West End, particularly with children, who came from all over town to buy candy, ice cream, novelties, etc., from Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

In August 1920, Mr. Davis and Mr. John F. Jenkins bought the building from Mr. John Parsons. Mr. Jenkins then had his dry-goods store in the room next to the Davis store.

Mr. Davis carried on a successful business for forty-two years. After his death in 1938, Mrs. Davis sold the business to Mr. Davis Brother, Albert B. Davis. He died in 1942, and the business was sold to Mr. Peter J. Jerko.

### JOE'S CONFECTIONERY

Joe's Confectionery was founded in June, 1946, by Joe Haag. The store, which is still owned and managed by Mr. Haag, is located at 531 E. Mahoning Street.

### THE NUT SHOP

The Nut Shop, which is located at 124 West Mahoning Street, was founded in May, 1936, by T. A. Zimmerman, A. H. Anderson, C. A. Langhearth, and H. B. Johnson. The first operator was Ken Christenson. It is now under the proprietorship of E. A. Johnson and H. B. Johnson. The Fort Pitt Market was formerly located in this building.

## DAIRIES

### CHAMBERS' DAIRY AND DAIRY BAR

Chambers' Dairy was founded in the year of 1914 by F. R. Chambers and R. W. Chambers and was operated under the name of Chambers Bros. Dairy until 1920. The dairy began with six head of cattle; and, as the business grew, the herd was increased un-



Chambers Dairy—515 East Mahoning Street





The Sanitary Dairy—212 South Gilpin Street.

til it numbered thirty-six cows. During World War I, Chambers Brothers decided to sell their cows because of the high cost of feed and shortage of labor. F. R. and R. W. Chambers then dissolved partnership. R. W. Chambers continued the dairy business, buying his supply of milk from farmers in the Punxsutawney area. Milk deliveries were made by horse and wagon until 1927 when Mr. Chambers purchased his first delivery truck.

Chambers' Dairy is now (1949) located at 515 East Mahoning Street in a modern building erected in 1948. The first floor of the building contains the dairy plant and dairy bar. The second floor contains two modern apartments.

### KROMER'S DAIRY

Kromer's Dairy was founded in 1925 by Mr. Arthur Kromer in a small garage. As his business grew, Mr. Kromer added new buildings and in 1939 started pasteurizing milk. Later, another large building was added for loading and truck storage.

Mr. Kromer has the latest equipment in his dairy. He has a modern steam boiler, pasteurization and homogenization equipment, the latest washing, handling and capping equipment. The dairy has a large storage space which opens upon the loading platform. Also, Mr. Kromer has his own laboratory which saves time and expense.

At the present time (1949) Kromer's Dairy is located at 115 Cleveland Street. The dairy employs eight men and has a trade which covers Punxsutawney and surrounding localities. Mr. Kromer secures his milk from thirty dairy farms near Punxsutawney.

### SANITARY DAIRY

The Sanitary Dairy first operated in 1915 on the present site of the Murray Dyeing and Cleaning Co., 218 W. Mahoning Street. The owners were Mrs. J. P. Wilson and Brenard Parsons. There were other dairies in the city at that time but this was the first dairy to bring "pasteurized" milk to the people here.



Kromer's Dairy—115 Cleveland Street



Delivery was by horse and wagon at this time.

In 1917 the owners, now Huber G. Wilson with his mother, Mrs. J. P. Wilson, moved the business to its present location at 212 South Gilpin Street. At this time they erected a new building to house the dairy. Here they operated until the business was taken over by H. Roy Hileman and H. J. Kochert in 1922. They enlarged the building and began delivery by truck. In 1925, Mr. Kochert sold his share to Mr. Hileman who continued in business until 1941. It was during Mr. Hileman's ownership that the dairy introduced its freezer-fresh ice cream.

Samuel C. Garner, the present owner, took over the business in 1941. He came here from Uniontown, Pennsylvania, where following his graduation from Pennsylvania State College in dairying, he had been associated with his brother in the Garner Dairy Company. During the past seven years the building has again been enlarged and new equipment installed. At the time of the war, Punx'yites were introduced to a "lady" milkman. She performed delivery services capably and well, as did other women in other lines of work during the emergency.

In line with their original policy of progressiveness, Sanitary Dairy first introduced to the city "homogenized" milk.

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## DRUG STORES

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### FEICHT'S DRUG STORE

Feicht's Drug Store was founded at the turn of the century by Charles M. Feicht. The business had its beginning in the room now occupied by the Costanzo store at 206 East Mahoning Street. The firm's business soon outgrew these quarters and was moved to the northwest corner of East Mahoning and North Jefferson Streets in the building now known as the Johnson Building.

Charles M. Feicht and his brother, Albert J., operated the store until 1922 when the founder died. Mrs. Nelle M. Feicht, his widow, assumed her husband's position and was the active head of the store until 1931, when the building was sold to the late Peter Johnson, who started the restaurant known as Johnson's Grill.

Paul A. Feicht was associated with his mother and two brothers, Charles and Richard, in conducting the business until the sale of the building.

After the business of the original Feicht's Drug Store here was closed out in 1931, Mr. Paul Feicht managed stores in Meadville, Greenville, Atlantic City, N. J., and Bridgeton, N. J. He is a registered pharmacist in Pennsylvania, Illinois and, New Jersey.

Mr. Feicht returned to Punxsutawney in 1937, to manage the Means and Lauf Drug Store; and five years later he and his wife, the former Ruth Robinson, purchased the store from the Means and Lauf interests.

The store was operated under the Means and Lauf name until several months ago when it was changed to Feicht's Drug Store, returning the Feicht title to the local drug store scene after an absence of eighteen years.

Plans for the remodeling operations, which were completed in February, 1949, were drawn up early



Feicht's Drug Store—111 West Mahoning Street

in 1948 and preliminary work was begun last fall with the installation of the new front. The remodeled store was formally opened to the public March 2, 3, 4 of 1949.

The assistant manager of the store, which is now located at 111 West Mahoning Street, is Alex Stokes, Jr.

### GRAY'S DRUG STORE

Widmann & Teah founded a drug store in 1926 at 120 E. Mahoning Street. At this time, the store employed six clerks and was under the management of Mr. Carl Mergner.

Like all other business establishments along the main Street, extensive damage was caused by the 1936 flood.

In 1941, the store was moved to the present location.

Gray Drug Stores, whose main office and warehouse are located in Cleveland, purchased the chain of 27 Widmann & Teah stores in June, 1945.

The store was completely remodeled in November of 1947, and at the official opening, there was presented to the people of Punxsutawney and vicinity, one of the finest and most modern drug stores in Western Pennsylvania.

At the present time, there are fourteen persons employed in the store, which is managed by Mr. H. E. McLaughlin.

### HAMILTON'S PHARMACY

Hamilton's Pharmacy was established in 1881 by the late Dr. S. S. Hamilton, Sr. At that time medicines were dispensed by the Doctor entirely.

Due to the extensiveness of Doctor Hamilton's practice, it was necessary to have a central place for the patients to get their medicines, so he started an apothecary shop on Findley Street, where the Jefferson



Theatre now stands. In 1904 this shop was destroyed by fire.

Following the fire Dr. Hamilton built the building now owned by Mr. Gene Fry at 106 E. Mahoning St. and again started a pharmacy. This store was much larger than the one on Findley Street having, what was at that time, Punxsutawney's most modern soda fountain, with P. L. Smith, now publisher of *The Spirit*, as its first attendant.

In 1919 Hamilton's Pharmacy was moved to its present location at 210 W. Mahoning Street. In 1936 the pharmacy was damaged to a great extent by 5 feet of flood water. The business, which is believed to be one of the oldest in Punxsutawney, is now managed by Mrs. Robert Hamilton.

### STEWART'S DRUG STORE

Stewart's Drug Store, an agency of Rexall Products, was established in November, 1944, by Wade I Stewart, pharmacist, at 128 W. Mahoning St. in the location which was formerly occupied by Coulter's Drug Store, also known as the Red Cross Drug Store.

In November, 1947, Mr. Stewart moved next door, 126 W. Mahoning St., to a modern and enlarged store, with complete prescription department, stocked with fine pharmaceuticals from all the better known manufacturers.

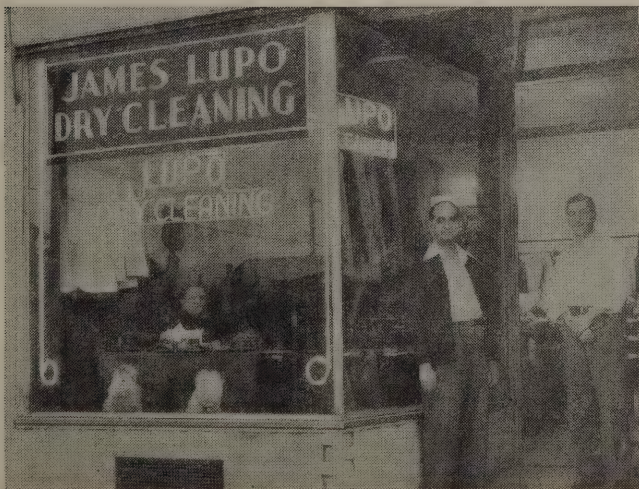
Mr. Stewart was formerly in Clearfield, Pa., and also was owner of a drug store business in that community.

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## DRY CLEANERS

### LUPO'S DRY CLEANERS

Lupo's, which is located at 305 East Mahoning Street, opened in Punxsutawney in 1938. Rooms were rented in the Park Building. The clothes were taken to be cleaned and pressed at Droney's in DuBois. The first pieces of equipment were pressing machine, cleaning machine, spotting machine, and steam iron. The business has increased considerably. Among its employes have been many Punxsutawney High School pupils, who were interested in learning this type of work.



Lupo's Dry Cleaners—305 East Mahoning Street

### HOMES' CLEANERS AND DYERS

Homes' Cleaners and Dyers was started in 1942 by Maurice Kaminsky. The business, located at 221 North Findley Street, is a branch of Homes' Cleaners and Dyers of Brookville.

### MURRAY'S DYEING AND CLEANING CO.

Murray's Dyeing and Cleaning Co. was founded in 1904, by S. K. Murray. This cleaning establishment is located at 218 West Mahoning Street. The present manager is S. K. Murray.

### PARIS CLEANERS

Paris Cleaners was established in 1917 in Brockway, Pa., by Mr. Paris. In 1940 Mr. Stern and Mr. Knodski took over the business. They opened the Punxsutawney branch in 1947 at 317 E. Mahoning St. The present manager of the local store is Mrs. Philippine Bianco.

### PERRI'S

The Gene Perri Dry Cleaning, Pressing, and Tailoring of 107 South Findley Street was founded July 4, 1924, by the present manager, Gene Perri. The building was purchased from Ben Friedman. The building was damaged by the 1936 flood. Because of 4½ feet of water in the store, \$500 was spent for repairs.

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## FEED STORES

### EASTERN STATES FARMERS' EXCHANGE

The Eastern States Farmers' Exchange is a farmer-owned and operated cooperative purchasing association, distributing feed, seed, fertilizer, and various other supplies needed for the operation of the specialized or family-size farm, with the central office located in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Punxsutawney warehouse, located at 117 Tiona Street, was opened in February of 1946 with Curtis Kelso as manager. In October of 1948 Glenn Ford became manager. James Campbell rounds out the present regular staff with casual labor secured as is necessary.

### HOLBEN'S IMPLEMENT STORE

Holben's Implement Store was founded on February 1, 1937, by Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Holben. The implement store is located in Walnut Alley and the feed store is located on North Findley Street. Mr. Holben is still the proprietor.

### KEYSTONE FLOUR AND FEED CO.

The Keystone Flour and Feed Co., 254 N. Findley Street, was founded in 1911 by Mr. S. P. Bernstein. This business has been managed by S. P. Bernstein since it was first established.

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Many older residents remember the Old Shook Shop near the Iron Works site. It was a tattered, unused building, the abode of tramps and considered a dangerous place to visit.



## THE CRISSMAN GREENHOUSE

The Crissman Greenhouse Company originated in 1891 in the home of Oliver Crissman, where he raised tomato plants in a bay window. These plants were later transplanted into a cold frame. The first cold frames were wooden construction of about 8 by 10 feet, and were covered with window frames from the old Cumberland Presbyterian Church. A few of these frames are still (1949) in use.

In 1892 the first greenhouse was built. This greenhouse was heated by two brick ovens with tile chimneys which extended from one end of the house to the other. The warm smoke thus heated the greenhouse.

In 1906 George Crissman, Sr., born February 28, 1874, in Blair County, Pa., became associated with his father, Oliver, in the greenhouse business.

In 1911 the Crissman Greenhouse Company was formed with George, Sr., and four sisters, Edith, Ida, Elizabeth, and Margaret Crissman, as partners in the company. George Crissman, Sr., remained manager until his retirement in 1941.

In 1908 the firm opened its retail store in the Y. M.C.A. Building. It became the first occupant of the present quarters and has remained there up to the present time (1949).

The greenhouses now cover 75 thousand square feet. In addition, there are two acres outside for growing purposes. The greenhouses and store employ some eighteen people, and grow enough plants and flowers to serve the area on a wholesale basis. These greenhouses are heated from a central heating plant with two 150 H.P. boilers. In 1941 the firm adopted the name of Crissman's Florists and at the present time is owned and operated by Oliver M., Joseph R., John G., and Benjamin F. Crissman, the four sons of George Crissman, Sr.

## OTTO'S FLORISTS

Otto's Florists was founded in 1921 by Charles Otto, Sr., and his two sons, Charles, Jr., and Rolland. The business began with only one greenhouse, but today it contains 18,000 square feet in greenhouses and fifteen acres of tillable soil on Horatio Street and a flower store which was established in 1927 in the Keystone Building on North Gilpin Street. It is managed by Rolland Otto and the greenhouses are managed by Charles Otto, Jr.

Potted plants, cut flowers, and vegetables are grown and sold. The greenhouse employs about twelve during the year. Approximately three hundred tons of coal, and \$200 worth of water are used yearly.

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## FURNITURE STORES

### E. D. FRY & SON, INC.

The E. D. Fry & Son, Inc., formerly called Fry's Electrical Appliances, was founded in 1935 by Eugene D. Fry, the present proprietor. The store was then located at 108 North Findley Street, Punxsutawney, Pa. Because of the flood of 1936, the establishment met a loss of \$5,000.00 in merchandise.

In 1940, Mr. Fry purchased the building known as the Freidman Building at 106 East Mahoning Street, which is the present location of his business. At that time electrical contracting was added to the business, specializing in industrial installations for factories, school houses, churches, hospitals, etc., in the west-central part of the state. Today this represents more than half of their total amount of business.

The firm has always been the General Electric representative in both industrial and commercial equipment, such as, G.E. household appliances, wiring equipment, and all commercial and industrial wiring devices.

The business was incorporated in 1948 and the officers are: Owen E. Fry, president; Eugene D. Fry, vice president and treasurer; and Jesse P. Long, secretary. Owen is now attending Thiel College and after completion of a business administration course in 1950 will be made a permanent member of the firm in charge of retail merchandising. The firm has now increased from a one to a twenty employe establishment.

## JONES FURNITURE COMPANY

The Jones Building, situated on the corner of West Mahoning and Gilpin Streets, was formerly a frame building occupied by these tenants: Gilman's Second Hand Furniture Store, Williams' Gun Shop, Noonan's Dress Shop, Marvin and Delappa Carpet Weaving, P. A. Sweeney Meat Market, and E. T. White Studio.

In 1919 the building and lot was purchased from J. H. Fink, then owner of the building, by J. Freas Jones of Rossiter and Ray Jones of Knoxdale. In the year of 1920, the entire building was razed and the present building was erected.

In excavating, the workmen uncovered several metal vats that had been used by a Mr. Young in the process of tanning raw hides into shoe leather. This tannery must have been at this location even before the building was purchased by Mr. Fink.

In erecting the present building, 150 men were employed. Some of the smaller buildings that occupied the lots on which it now stands were moved to Gilpin and Mahoning Streets and served as an office for the contractors during the construction.

The materials used in the construction consisted of 50 tons of steel and 12 carloads of brick. The building, which has a 76 foot front and is 128 feet long with a rear measurement of 108 feet, was completed in December 1920, and contains three store rooms on the first floor, White's studio and display room on the second floor, and six apartments on the third floor.

Early in 1921, J. Freas Jones and Ray Jones occupied the corner store as a department store. The center room was occupied by Rubin Cohen as a clothing and furniture store and the east room by Pat Sweeney's meat market. The White Studio was on the second floor.

A few years later, J. Freas Jones became the sole owner of the building. In 1928 the corner room on the first floor was leased by J. C. Penney Company, the present occupant. The adjoining room was then occupied by F. W. Woolworth Co. The Jones Furni-





The Jones Building—Corner West Mahoning and Gilpin Streets

ture Company moved in the first floor room which was vacated by the Sweeney Meat Market.

The White Studio, which was originally in the Fink building, is still in the building, is now operated by E. T. White's son Jean. This studio is the oldest tenant in the building.

The owner of the building, J. Freas Jones, who now conducts the Jones Furniture Company, has been in business since 1905. The company employs nine people and is managed by Robert F. Hetrick. The Jones Furniture Company now serves Punxsutawney and the surrounding community with its complete line of home furnishings.

## THE JORDAN STORE

The Jordan Store was founded as a music store in its present location, under the name of "The Melody Shoppe," December, 1921, by Samuel X. Jordan.

While a student in the Punxsutawney High School, Mr. Jordan had formerly sold his first two pianos for Victor Courville, then a prominent musician, who conducted a conservatoire on West Mahoning Street and directed the Jefferson Theatre orchestra. From 1919 until the Melody Shoppe was founded, Mr. Jordan carried a stock of pianos in his residence on Indiana Street.



The Jordan Store—134 East Mahoning Street



In March, 1923, a brother, Josef C. Jordan, joined The Melody Shoppe as a partner; and in July, 1923, Mrs. Margaret Jordan joined the firm as a partner with her two sons. The store room was shared with the jewelry business conducted by W. H. Hill. A large percentage of the store's business was secured by soliciting the sale of pianos and phonographs door to door. In the winter and early spring seasons, when the then dirt roads were impassable, pianos were shipped by rail to other towns in the area and sold from hotels or vacant store rooms. Under the direction of the late Carl Grazier and later under Kenneth Summerson, present director of the Emporium Band, The Melody Shoppe conducted a sixty piece boys' and girls' band, the first such organization in Punxsutawney. The Melody Shoppe band was discontinued when the first band was organized by the Punxsutawney High School.

By 1929, the business had been expanded to include household furniture, and the firm was incorporated under the name of "Jordans Incorporated." Additional floor space was secured by using the cellar for wall paper storage, by the construction of a mezzanine floor, and by the occupancy of the second floor. In 1932, the business was changed from a corporation to a partnership under the name of "Jordans' Furniture Store." In 1936 Warehouse Number One was constructed at 420 Indiana Street. This warehouse and contents were badly damaged by fire December 27, 1936. Loss was estimated at \$8,000.00. The building was immediately repaired and in 1942 Warehouse Number Two was constructed on the same property.

The flood of 1936 completely filled the wall paper storage basement, and a wareroom on East Mahoning Street was filled with water to the tops of pianos in storage there.

Upon the death of W. H. Hill in 1938, the jewelry store, which he had operated in this same location since 1902, became a department of The Jordan Store.

In 1941, Josef C. Jordan left for encampment with Punxsutawney's Battery "E," was later transferred to Pacific islands, and then to Japan until the close of the war when he again turned his attention to the mercantile business.

In 1944 the Langan building was purchased and remodeled with large openings in the walls to include its three floors and basement as display space. Stocks of merchandise by this date covering many varied lines had reached department store proportions and the name "Jordans Furniture Store" no longer being appropriate was changed to "The Jordan Store" in 1946.

Ownership has not changed since 1923. The present partners are Margaret, Josef C. and Samuel X. Jordan.

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY FURNITURE EXCHANGE

The Punxsutawney Furniture Exchange, owned and operated by Edward and Marguerite Tewart, was established May 12, 1937, in the Mambucca-Salvaggio building at 236 North Findley Street, Punxsutawney, Pa. Business was conducted there until June, 1941, when the contents were moved to the present location in the Drummond Building, opposite the Post Office at 298 North Findley Street.

Five employees are regularly employed with extra help being necessary part of the time.

The exclusive Westinghouse appliance franchise consists of domestic and commercial refrigeration, electric ranges, milk coolers, radios, and television, as well as the famous Laundromat, the all automatic home laundry and clothes dryer. Small appliances such as toasters, mixers, and irons in all the popular makes are also sold.

RCA Victor radio and television, Coolerator refrigerators and home freezers, and a complete line of new and used furniture are also sold.

A service department headed by A. B. White, III, is maintained for the convenience of patrons.

#### RAGLEY MAYTAG STORE

The Ragley Maytag Store was founded on Feb. 7, 1932, at 234 W. Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, Pa., by S. J. Ragley, the present owner. Mr. Ragley came to Punxsutawney from Indiana, Pa., where he had been employed by the Indiana County Maytag Co. as a salesman from Nov. 28, 1928, until Feb. 7, 1932.

As the business became established, the need for more room became apparent, and in October of 1939 Mr. Ragley moved his business to the Gleckler Hotel Building on North Findley Street. The business continued in this location until June of 1943, when the manufacture of war machines curtailed the manufacture of appliances and it became impossible to buy any merchandise for resale. Mr. Ragley found it necessary to close his store, but continued to uphold his slogan—We Service What We Sell—by operating the business from his warehouse, located at the rear of 171 Cherry Street. Here during the long war years Mr. Ragley took care of the service for his customers.

In May of 1944, Mr. Ragley, with his usual business foresight, purchased the building at 210 E. Mahoning Street in which he is now located. Immediately after the war when appliances again became available, Mr. Ragley resumed business. Today from his modern store, he offers the people of Punxsutawney and vicinity a complete line of nationally known appliances and accessories. Included in his line are Maytag washers, Hoover cleaners, Ironrite ironers, Hotpoint appliances, Servel refrigerators, and many others.

In July of 1946, Mr. Ragley together with Leo Johnston, former manager of the Acme Market, purchased the V.F.W. Building on North Findley Street. In September of 1947, Ragley Furniture was founded in this building. The object of this business was to bring high quality furniture to the buying public at a low price. The public reaction to this business was so favorable that it has been twice necessary to remodel the building in order to accommodate a more complete line of home furnishings. Today from this furniture store the people of Jefferson County have an opportunity to purchase all types of nationally known furniture at "Out of the Way—Less to Pay" prices. The furniture store is operated under the management of Mr. Leo Johnston.

#### ROBINSON FURNITURE COMPANY

The business now operating as Robinson Furniture Company was established in 1885 as the A. C. Robinson and S. F. Robinson and Bro., Undertaking and Marble Cutting, and was located on Gilpin Street on



the lot recently vacated by Raffetto's Plumbing and Heating Company.

In 1888, the building with its entire contents was destroyed by fire. The Robinsons purchased the present site on the north side of West Mahoning Street and erected a two-story frame building. Soon after this they disposed of the marble cutting to C. M. Neal, and in place added furniture and continued as A. C. Robinson and Brothers Undertaking and Furniture.

In 1923 this building was burned and Charles B. Robinson, then owner, erected the brick building which now houses the Robinson Furniture Co. The business has been managed by three generations—A. C. Robinson, Charles B., his son; and A. C., II, and Ryman, grandsons.

The funeral home was abandoned in 1931 following the death of A. C., II, and since that date the store engaged only in the sale of household furniture.

### SINGLETON'S FURNITURE STORE

Singleton's Furniture Store, located at 212 E. Mahoning Street, was established in August, 1937, under the name of Hall and Singleton. This furniture store at that time was under the management of George W. Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hall, of this city, and Robert G. Singleton, son of Frank and Mary Singleton of Wharton, N. J.

Previous to opening this store, George W. Hall was associate manager of the Robinson Furniture Store and Robert G. Singleton, who came to Punxsutawney from Wharton, N. J., in 1915, operated the local Silk Mill.

As these two partners progressed in business, they opened a branch store in Titusville in 1941 with George W. Hall as the manager. He later opened another furniture store in Union City.

In May 1944, they dissolved partnership. George W. Hall took over the stores in Titusville and Union City, and Robert G. Singleton took over the business known as Singleton's Furniture Store, located in the Knights of Pythias building on East Mahoning Street.

This store has been progressing nicely and is known as handling the finest furniture and house furnishings obtainable.

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## GLASS

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### SPEIDEL GLASS CO.

The Speidel Glass Co. of Punxsutawney located at 109 Front Street was founded in 1922 by O. P. and C. C. Speidel. The present manager, who has been in this position since 1939, is C. C. Speidel. During the flood of 1936, the Speidel Glass Co. was in the flooded area.

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The *Punxsutawney Spirit* at one time was published on the second floor of a building where the McCrory store is now located. It was above the "Snyder Racket Store." Later the first and second floors of the Rosenthal building were used and it was there the daily *Spirit* was born.

## GROCERIES AND MEAT

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### AMERICAN STORES—ACME MARKET

The Acme Market of Punxsutawney, one of a group of chain stores that were first started in Philadelphia, was opened in 1894 by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Robinson. The management of the store suffered a total loss of merchandise as a result of the 1936 flood.

Until May, 1949, the store was located at 134 West Mahoning Street and was managed by Mr. Leo Johnston. It is presently managed by Mr. Irvin J. Confer, who for 28 years has been a manager for the Acme Stores. The new establishment, located at 307 East Mahoning Street, is a 100% self-service market.

### AMERICAN STORE COMPANY

The American Store Company, 927 West Mahoning Street, was opened by Charles Bowers in 1946. The store is now under the management of Clair Green.

### ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TEA COMPANY

The Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company stores, formerly located at 1011 and 219 West Mahoning Street, were opened in 1916 and 1929, respectively. They both closed permanently February 5, 1949. The Super Atlantic and Pacific Market, located at 306 East Mahoning Street, continued to serve customers until February 8, 1949.

The giant new Super Market, 236 North Findley Street, observed its grand opening a few days later. It is one of the most complete and modern food markets in Western Pennsylvania. The new market, which adjoins the B. & O. Railroad property on North Findley Street, is the last word in self-service efficiency markets. The building was constructed at an estimated cost of \$90,000 and is one of the finest structures of its kind in this district. It is approximately 85 feet wide and 150 feet long, containing 10,225 square feet of store space and 3,750 feet of wareroom space. The new market is managed by Vincent Monahan, formerly of Cumberland, Maryland.

A feature of this new store which has a special entrance and exit for the convenience of customers, is an "electric eye" door that opens automatically for a customer as he leaves the store.

The storeroom contains 175 lighting fixtures, with more than 300 fluorescent lights providing "daylight." It is indeed the most modern building in Punxsutawney up to this date.

### BARLETTA GROCERY COMPANY

The first Barletta Grocery Store was founded in 1898 at Soldier, Pa., by Michael and Frank Barletta. Frank Barletta served as manager until 1923, when the store was sold. A year later the building owned by M. A. Quarry of Punxsutawney was purchased by the Barlettas, who opened a second store at this location. This store was later moved to 320 East Mahoning Street. Including the Punxsutawney stores, Barlettas have four branches and one warehouse. The following is a list of the present locations of the stores, dates opened and managers:





Barletta Super Market—320 East Mahoning Street

Punxsutawney, 320 East Mahoning Street, 1924, George A. Barletta. Punxsutawney, 102 West Mahoning Street, 1936, A. L. Barletta. Clearfield, 115 East Market Street, 1939, F. A. Barletta; DuBois, 207 West Long Avenue, 1945, Thomas L. Barletta.

The warehouse on Tiona Street in Punxsutawney, which was opened in 1943, is managed by Joseph Barletta.

### BARRY'S FOOD STORE

Barry's Food Store was founded in 1932 by Edward Barry, the first proprietor, who later sold to Bina Barnett. The store, which is located at 222 West Mahoning Street, was slightly damaged in the 1936 flood. The present proprietor is Alberta S. Coke-well. This building formerly housed the office of the town's pioneer newspaper, the *Mahoning Valley Spirit*.

### BONARRIGO'S GROCERY

Bonarrigo's Grocery, located at 401 South Main Street, was started in 1900 by Mr. Whigerman. Mr. Nicholas G. Bonarrigo is the present proprietor. Although the store space is about the same as it was originally, the business has increased.

### G. E. BUSHONG GROCERY

The G. E. Bushong Grocery, founded in 1894 by John G. Ernst, is located at 613 East Mahoning Street. In the year 1904 Mr. F. E. Jones bought the store from Charles Oberlin. Before this time the store had changed management five times. After the death of Mr. Jones in 1933, his wife operated the store until June 1, 1942, when it was sold to Gerald E. Bushong.

At present (1949) the store employs five clerks and is under the management of Mr. Gerald Bushong.

### JAMES CARLINO'S STORE

The store which James Carlino now owns was built about fifty-five years ago. The first owner was David Baun, who rented the building for some time, using it as a store room. Noah Beatty then rented the building for a short time and opened a restaurant.

Later Harvey Bowers rented this building and conducted a grocery store. Then Charles McCouri continued this business for a short time.

Scott Cochran and Ezra Ors then opened a restaurant in this building. A few years later, Noah Treharne opened a store there. In 1918, James Carlino

bought the building and opened a fruit and grocery store which today carries a most complete stock of "exclusive" foods and meats.

The store suffered a great loss in the 1936 flood. All the merchandise was completely under water. The grocery and the lunch room were closed for three months.

The Carlino store is under the direction of Philip Carlino, his sister Josephine and brother George. It has been the aim of "the Carlino's" to serve their patrons with only the finest of foods, and this aim has been continued to the present day.

### CASTRONOVA GROCERY

Founded in 1923 by Eli Castronova, Castronova's Grocery has always been located at 215 Pine Street. The store suffered almost a complete loss in the 1936 flood when the water rose to a height of five feet. The present proprietor is Peter Castronova.

### CITY FOOD MARKET

The City Food Market, located at 258 North Findley Street, was founded by Leonard Ingros, Sr., in 1918. It was damaged by the flood in 1936, but provided food for rescue crews. Since 1942, Leonard Ingros, Jr., has been the proprietor.

### CONSER'S FRUIT AND GROCERY MARKET

Conser's Fruit and Groceries Market, located at 525 North Main St., is operated by the Conser Brothers. The store has never been moved but it has been enlarged. It was founded in 1902 by J. R. Conser, who owns the property and equipment. Conser's also own and operate a branch store in Indiana.

### COSTANZO'S PRODUCE AND GROCERY STORE

The Costanzo Produce and Grocery Store was founded in September, 1911, by Charles and Rose Costanzo. The original place of business was the room now occupied by the Punxsutawney Quick Lunch, 232 East Mahoning Street. Business was continued here until 1917 when the building now (1949) occupied was purchased and the store enlarged. Mr. Costanzo entered the wholesale beer business in June, 1933, and was one of the first one hundred to be licensed in Pennsylvania. An addition to the rear of the building to enlarge beverage business quarters was made in 1947-48. The present building suffered considerable loss in the 1936 flood.

### DICK'S MARKET

Dick's Market was founded about 1932 by S. S. Smith, the first proprietor. It was purchased in March, 1948, by Richard S. Graffius, who is the present owner.

### FLECKENSTEIN'S STORE

Fleckenstein's Grocery Store was founded in 1923 by E. G. Fleckenstein. When he died seventeen years ago, Mary E. Fleckenstein took over the management. At her death in November, 1948, Bridge Cantwell became the manager of the store. Fleckenstein's Store is located at 607 Pine St.





Left to right: Arthur DeLuca, Charles Feicht, Woodrow Montgomery, Ethel Marling, Mildred Godak, Mrs. Helen White, Ann Levy, Ben Levy, William Haag, Leo Clement, Andrew Verostic, John Levy and Kenneth Richards.

### THE FOOD MART

The Food Mart, which is located at 527 East Mahoning Street, has been in business since December 16, 1948. The proprietors at the present time are George H. Depp and J. L. Meenan. Mr. Depp formerly operated a store, Depp's Fairlawn Store in West End, for nine years. The location of the Food Mart has been a grocery store for approximately forty-five years. Until recently B. J. Laurer's Grocery Store was located there.

### FORT PITT MARKET

The founder of the Fort Pitt Market, the first proprietor, and the date of founding are unknown. The store was damaged to some extent by the 1936 flood. At one time the market was located on West Mahoning Street on the lot which the Nut Shop, 124 West Mahoning Street, now occupies. At first only meat was sold at the Fort Pitt Market. The store, now located at 106 North Findley Street, is managed by J. H. Freas.

### GATTUSO MARKET

The Gattuso grocery market, located at 318 Elk Run Avenue, was founded by Charles Longo in 1910. Thirty-four years later, Samuel Longo became the owner of the establishment. Mr. Joseph Gattuso, who became the manager July 1, 1946, still holds that position.

### JEFFERSON GROCERY COMPANY

The Jefferson Grocery Co. was established in 1888 by Irvin Simpson and J. Reese Pantall. At first it was a lumber mill and later a flour and feed mill. During the next forty years, the company changed hands many times. Irvin Simpson sold his share to Mr. Pantall. Later Mr. Pantall sold to the Mahoning Valley Milling Co., who in turn sold to Jacob Levy, proprietor of the Jefferson Flour and Feed Co., located on Indiana St. Later the company was moved to 226 N. Penn St., which is the present address (1949). In 1931 a line of groceries was added. Then in 1932 the name was changed to the Jefferson Grocery Co. At that time a partnership was formed between Jacob Levy and his sons Benjamin and Joseph. In 1935 the feed mill was abandoned and a full line of groceries was added. The company suffered damage amounting to \$3,000 in the 1936 flood. In May, 1943, Jacob Levy died. Later in 1944 the Jefferson Grocery Co. was incorporated. In June 1949 a Sparkle Super-market was established in Punxsutawney by the Jefferson Grocery Co. at 115 W. Mahoning St. The newest equipment and store design is incorporated in the new market. The Jefferson Grocery Co. has come a long way since its meager beginning.

### GAULTIERI AND VILLELLA'S MARKET

The Gaultieri and Villella Market on Elk Run Avenue was started in July, 1947.



## FRANCES SUPPLY CO.

The Francis Supply Co. was started in August, 1937, by Sam Light, the present owner. It is located at 1008 West Mahoning Street.

## GEIST'S MARKET

Geist's Market, located at 106 Indiana Street, was founded in 1938 by Walter Sedler. The building had previously housed a blacksmith's shop, before Walter Sedler had purchased the building, from the Gray Estate. The building was slightly damaged by the flood of 1936. In 1938 Mr. Sedler opened a Poultry Market. The old buildings collapsed in 1945. Today in its place is a new brick building. In 1946 the store was changed to a self-service market, carrying a line of meats and groceries. Mr. Slick from Pittsburgh took over the store in July, 1947. Mr. Sedler bought the store back in September of the same year. Mr. and Mrs. Willis Geist of Worthville purchased the store on May 1, 1948.

## GRAFF'S MARKET

Graff's Market was founded as a meat market in 1921 where the Star Lunch is now located, 213 North Findley Street. In 1926 groceries were added and the store was moved to 116 North Findley Street, its present address. It was damaged by smoke in 1933 when the shop next door caught fire. The 1936 flood caused damage to the extent of \$1,000. The store is still managed by its founder, L. F. Graff.

## INFANTINO'S GOLDEN VALLEY MARKET

Infantino's Golden Valley Market was founded by James Infantino in 1921. During the flood of 1936, there were eight inches of water in the store. The damage was estimated at \$2,000. The present manager of the store, which is located at 314 East Mahoning Street, is James Infantino.

## JONES' FAIRLAWN STORE

Jones' Fairlawn Store, which is located at 1004 West Mahoning Street, was founded about 1909 by Wm. Kromer. D. T. Jones, who bought out Wm. Kromer, May 3, 1911, is the present (1949) owner. The store was previously located near the Star Iron Works but was later moved to new quarters in the John Parsons Building. It was at one time the Clayville Post Office. The full name of the store is Jones' Market. The store has never been damaged by fire, floods, or any other way.

## LAUDERBACH-GRIEST CO.

The history of Lauderbach-Griest Co. has been entwined with that of Punxsutawney since shortly after the turn of the century. And the wholesale grocery concern has played an important role in the business and industrial life of the community.

It was in 1902 that Platt-Barber Company (original name of the firm) opened a branch house in Punxsutawney. Headquarters of the company then, as now, were in Philipsburg and a branch house already had been established in DuBois.

Changes in management over the years have resulted in three different names for the concern since it was first established as Platt-Barber. In 1905 the firm name was changed to Lauderbach-Barber. Twelve

years later, in 1917, it became known as Lauderbach-Zerby, and in 1924 the name was changed to Lauderbach-Griest.

The first home of Lauderbach-Griest in Punxsutawney was in the old Punxsutawney Brewing Company's bottling plant located on the corner of South Gilpin and Indiana Streets. Later the firm moved to the Ford Building, on East Mahoning Street. The latter building, now torn down, stood on the site that, with an adjoining lot, is now the site of the Chambers' Dairy Company (515 E. Mahoning St.).

In 1907, the company purchased what was then the North Hotel building, which was located on the North Findley Street site where the present Lauderbach-Griest plant now stands. After remodeling the old hotel building for temporary use, the company decided in 1909 to erect a new building there and for a year the firm again used its former quarters in the Ford Building while its new home was being erected.

Completed in 1910, the North Findley Street warehouse and offices are still in use. The four-story building was constructed with an eye to the future possible expansion with the result that it has met the needs of the steadily growing and expanding business over the years. It contains 25,000 square feet of floor space in addition to a cellar.

Lauderbach-Griest was the only wholesale grocery company in Punxsutawney when its branch house was opened here in 1902. In addition to Punxsutawney stores, it served the many thriving coal towns in the immediate area. Salesmen used trains or horse and buggy to call on their customers and deliveries were made by train or horse-drawn wagons. Today the Punxsutawney branch serves parts of five counties: Jefferson, Indiana, Armstrong, Westmoreland, and Clearfield. In 1939 the Indiana branch house of the company was closed, and the Punxsutawney branch took over its territory. The company has always limited itself to the wholesale distribution.

A. S. Kline was the first manager of the Punxsutawney branch house. He was succeeded by Frank Bowman in 1903.

J. Frank Meenan, present manager of the branch, has been a part of the Punxsutawney picture since almost the beginning of Lauderbach-Griest in the community. After four years as a member of the DuBois branch staff, Mr. Meenan came to Punxsutawney in 1905 and two years later succeeded Mr. Bowman as manager. He has been in charge ever since.

Lauderbach-Griest serves a wide territory in Central and Northwest Pennsylvania. In addition to its main office in Philipsburg and its Punxsutawney branch, it has branch houses in Bellefonte, Clearfield, DuBois and Spangler.

William Morse of Hazleton, Pa., is president of Lauderbach-Griest Company. George R. Griest of Philipsburg is vice president and general manager, and A. E. Adams, of Philipsburg, is secretary-treasurer.—By J. F. Meenan.

## LAUER'S SUPER MARKET

Lauer's Market was founded in 1935. The present managers are S. J. Lauer and B. P. Lauer who became a manager in 1942. The damage caused by the 1936 flood amounted to \$1500. The market, formerly located at 527 East Mahoning Street, was moved to 525 East Mahoning Street in December, 1948.



## KROGER GROCERY AND BAKING CO.

Kroger's store was opened in Punxsutawney in March, 1936. It was first managed by Dale Fritz. The store is located in the Masonic building on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Jefferson Streets. In 1936 the building was slightly damaged by the flood, but the merchandise had not been put into the building on March 17 (the date of the flood).

The present manager of Kroger's store is George A. Babyak.

## MAYO'S BETTER STORE

In 1911, John Mayo, father of the present proprietor, founded Mayo's Better Store. At that time, the store was located on South Gilpin Street and Indiana Street. Later, the store was moved to Ridge Avenue. On April 6, 1933, because of ill health, John Mayo retired, and his son, Nick Mayo, took over the business.

The store was closed from January of 1942 until March of 1946. During this time the proprietor was in the service. After he returned, he reopened the store in March of 1946.

## NOTARIAN'S STORE

Notarian's Store was founded in 1920 by Joseph Notarian. The store was originally in a separate building to the left of 308 Park Avenue, its present location. A few years ago the store was moved into the house. While the store was still in the separate building, there was an attempted robbery. The robbers were, however, frightened away before they could cause any trouble. The present (1949) proprietor is Mrs. Joseph Notarian.

## STAPLES' GROCERY STORE

The Staples' Grocery Store was established in 1915 at 200 Elk Run Avenue by J. R. Staples. Later, it moved to 400 Graffius Avenue, its present location. J. R. Staples is still the manager.

## TRONZO'S MARKET

Tronzo's Market was founded in 1914 by Gaspar Tronzo at 117 Elk Run Avenue. The present manager is Alfred A. Tronzo.

The store was slightly damaged by the 1936 flood.

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## HARDWARES

### CHAMBERS' HARDWARE

Chambers' Hardware, located at the corner of Union and South Gilpin Streets, was founded by Fred R. Chambers, who is still the proprietor. The original establishment was located at 119 South Gilpin Street in the year 1920. This business was purchased from J. L. Mogle, from whom Fred had learned the harness-making trade. In 1923, Chambers' Harness Shop was moved to the corner of Union and South Gilpin Streets and expanded from strictly harness work to retail hardware. This business then became known as Chambers' Hardware.

On April 29, 1937, Fred purchased adjoining property from the Crawford Beck estate. The Beck home was remodeled, joined to the original brick building, and is now used exclusively as the home appliance department. The Beck Blacksmith Shop, located at the south end of the property, was remodeled and is now used as a warehouse.

While occupying this building, floods have caused extensive damage five times, with water heights ranging from four inches to five feet. The 1936 St. Patrick's Day flood, when the highest water occurred, caused damage amounting to \$5,000.

During the course of his business, Fred has had a number of employees. His outstanding employees, who are still in employment, are the Cooper brothers. James Cooper has been with the business for twenty-five years, and George Cooper, for seventeen years.

## MAHONING HARDWARE & IMPLEMENT CO.

The Mahoning Hardware & Implement Co. was organized in the Central Y.M.C.A. offices in December, 1919, and the stock of The Famous Supply Co. was purchased at that time from L. M. Lewis and J. M. Williams. This firm was located at the corner of Gilpin and Union Streets in the building now owned and occupied by the Chambers Hardware.

In January of 1920, J. M. Williams and L. M. Lewis purchased the Winslow Block located at the corner of West Mahoning and Gilpin Streets, and the newly formed Mahoning Hardware & Implement Co. took possession at once.

The original stockholders were J. Boyd Allison, J. M. Williams, and L. M. Lewis, each having equal shares. The business was incorporated with an authorized capital of \$50,000.00, later being increased to \$100,000.00. At the meeting in the Central Y.M.C.A., L. M. Lewis was elected president; J. Boyd Allison, secretary and manager; J. M. Williams, treasurer.

During the first year of operation, the following persons were admitted to the Company: J. H. Evans, H. G. Bowers, I. Ray Bowers, A. P. Sutter, H. F. Weiss, Frank Noerr, and M. A. McDonald.

J. Boyd Allison continued as manager until 1935 when, due to ill health, he sold his interest to Paul W. Means, who took over the active management and continued in that capacity until 1937, when he sold his interests to Clarence A. Murray, the present owner.

During Mr. Means' regime as manager, the quarters of the company were enlarged to take in the entire first floor of the building located at the southwest corner of Mahoning and Gilpin Streets, thus enabling the company to expand its facilities and increase its stock of merchandise.

The company now carries a complete line of general hardware, tools, paints, glasses, stones, roofing, wallpaper, household items, and plumbing supplies.

The officers of the company at the present time are J. M. Williams, president; G. E. Murray, vice president; and C. A. Murray, secretary-treasurer and general manager. The directors are J. M. Williams, G. E. Murray, J. R. Williams, Clair Noerr, and C. A. Murray.

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At one time Mahoning Creek was alive with water turtles, hard and soft shell snappers. They disappeared even before the mine pollution was dumped into the stream.





## PUNXSUTAWNEY HARDWARE COMPANY

The Punxsutawney Hardware Company's establishment, as now constituted in reality, had its beginning in 1894 in the frame building on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Foundry Streets in the West End of Punxsutawney, then Clayville, where the firm of Brown & McGarragh, established a hardware store, a partnership that existed six months before George C. Brown acquired the McGarragh interest.

In 1897, just 52 years ago, the store was moved to a building that once stood on the northeast corner of Mahoning and North Gilpin Streets, which had been previously occupied by Goheen's Racket Store, the building which later housed the Ed. A. Murray department store, and was razed several years ago.

There the business was carried on until about 1906, when it was moved into what was then the John R. Pantall Building, a room now occupied by the Gray's Drug Store, 110 W. Mahoning Street.

Meanwhile, the Punxsutawney Hardware Company had been organized as a corporation and occupied the commodious four-story building 110 East Mahoning Street, recently remodeled. J. W. Osterhout was the general manager and associated in the company were J. Boyd Allison, Bert Palmer, S. A. Rinn, Harry Evans, J. L. Fisher, D. H. McIntyre, A. W. Calloway, and several others including Mr. Brown, who in 1918 acquired the majority of the stock and on January 1, 1919, became the president and general manager of the company, a position he still occupies.

In recent years, the stock outstanding in the corporation has been acquired by the Brown family and to-

day is held entirely within the family, by George C. Brown, Henry W. Brown, Donald W. Brown, Henry L. Brown, and Mrs. Vincent Autuori.

Mr. Brown's influence in the hardware business has not been confined to his home community. His work in the field has been widespread as attested by his election to the presidency of the Pennsylvania and Atlantic Seaboard Hardware Association, serving the hardware dealers of the New England and Atlantic States.

The first and second floors of the company building are occupied by its retail establishment, while the third and fourth floors and warehouse located on the B. & O. Railroad are devoted to the wholesale activities. All floors are accessible by passenger and freight elevators. A large part of the company's growing business is now concerned with the sale of hardware in the wholesale field. More than 500 dealers in seven counties are served. This department is directed by Henry W. Brown, secretary and treasurer of the company. The plumbing and heating department has grown steadily under the direction of Carl W. Depp. Thirty persons are employed, most of whom have given long and efficient service to the company.

Henry W. Brown and James Raybuck, the latter being superintendent of the company's wholesale department, have been associated with George C. Brown since the day he took control. Joseph Maruca, of the retail department, has rounded out 25 years of service and Sam Smith in the tinning department 15 years. Merle Mogle, in the plumbing department, was with the company from its inception until his retirement a year ago. James Lester, Lee Simpson, and William Zeitler, all recently deceased, were with Mr.



Brown from the time of his managership until their deaths.

## WHITE'S HARDWARE

White's Hardware was founded at 537 East Mahoning Street in 1943 by Mr. George White, the present proprietor. The store handles general merchandise, but mainly heating and plumbing appliances.

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## HOTELS

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### HOTEL PUNXSUTAWNEY

Hotel Punxsutawney, erected in 1908, 60 years after the founding of Punxsutawney, has become a landmark of distinction in local history.

The 30-room North Findley Street structure originally was owned by Thomas Bennis and operated during the first 40 years of its existence by C. B. Gleckler. The enterprise was sold in August of 1946 to Jack Grossman and Richard Blatt, Pittsburgh brothers-in-law and business partners. Mr. Grossman is a former downtown Pittsburgh constable, prominently associated with leading sports figures in Pennsylvania's second largest city. Mr. Blatt is a graduate of Duquesne, one of three university schools in Pittsburgh.

The new owners completely remodelled Hotel Gleckler upon purchase, installing one of the finest

combination cocktail lounge-dining rooms in Western Pennsylvania. In addition, a Sportsman's Bar and luncheon room were built on the ground floor. Outstanding features of the bar and grill room include black and white and natural color portraits of local and national sports figures. The name Hotel Gleckler became Hotel Punxsutawney.

Leading Punxsutawney civic and charitable organizations utilize the hotel's fine dining room for weekly and periodic dinner meetings.

Staffed by efficient and well-trained personnel, Hotel Punxsutawney has again attained the prominence that once made Hotel Gleckler famous throughout Western Pennsylvania.

### NEW NATIONAL HOTEL

The New National Hotel, located at the corner of South Gilpin and Union Streets, is owned and operated by Mrs. Winifred Baumgartner.

The hotel was built in 1905 by Joseph Baumgartner on the site of the National Hotel, which had previously been destroyed by fire. At that time, Mr. Baumgartner, who was the owner and operator of the Punxsutawney Brewery, leased the hotel to David Naylor. Mr. Naylor operated the hotel until 1934, at which time his interests were purchased by Ed S. Baumgartner, son of Joseph Baumgartner.

When Mr. Baumgartner became manager of the hotel in 1934, the hotel contained no private baths, many of the rooms were not equipped with heat or



The New National Hotel—Corner South Gilpin and Union Streets



running water and contained the old style combination gas and electric lighting fixtures. The hotel was completely remodeled by Mr. Baumgartner after he became manager. He installed new heating plumbing, telephone, and lighting systems. All the rooms were equipped with running water and heat, private baths were installed in many of the rooms, all rooms were refurnished and redecorated. The lobby, dining room, and tap room also were refurnished and redecorated, and the hotel was accepted as a member of the American and Pennsylvania Hotels Association.

During the flood in 1936 the water reached a level of better than four feet on the ground floor of the hotel. At this time, there were twenty-three persons staying at the hotel. The only method available for preparing food for those people was a small electric waffle iron and an electric coffee pot. The guests were fed from these for two days until a small kerosene stove was obtained. The flood did extensive damage to the lower floors of the hotel.

During the time Mr. Baumgartner operated the hotel, he was very active in civic affairs and was very much interested in the promotion of the Groundhog as a method of advertising Punxsutawney. He used the Groundhog extensively in his advertising and had a pen built in the rear of the hotel where he raised groundhogs for display to the public. These groundhogs are maintained by the hotel and may be viewed by the public at any time in the rear of the hotel.

Upon the death of Ed. S. Baumgartner in 1943, the managership of the hotel was assumed by his wife, Winifred Baumgartner, who was assisted by their sons Larry and Ed. F. Baumgartner.

Mrs. Baumgartner has continued to operate the hotel and maintain its fine reputation as the "Home of Comfortable Rooms and Fine Food" to the present time.

### PANTALL HOTEL

The present site of the Pantall Hotel was occupied first by a house built by Charles R. Barclay in 1820. The building was sold to Joseph Long, who

passed it over to James Campbell in 1832. Mr. Campbell made it into a hotel and called it "The Mahoning House." Some time later he sold it to Henry Jennings, who ran the place under the name of Jennings' House. During the fall of 1868, the building was destroyed by fire and the property was sold to the Mahoning Bank. The property was next shifted into the hands of Theo Pantall, who erected the building that now stands on the corner of East Mahoning and South Jefferson Streets. The building is made of red brick, contains three stories and a hundred odd rooms, which are equipped with twentieth century conveniences.

The Pantall Hotel was operated from 1922 to 1932 by Charles Snyder. W. F. Neeley became the manager in 1932 and was succeeded in 1940 by Walter Sink. During this time Bernard Schneider owned a half interest in the hotel and T. M. Kurtz and the Pantall heirs, respectively, owned quarter interests. In August, 1946, it was sold to J. M. Wargo, the present proprietor.

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## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

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### DEREUME EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Raymond Dereume founded Dereume Imports and Exports in 1922. The business moved from the Spirit Building in January, 1942, to the present location at 204 Pine Street. August Dereume is associated with his father in the operation of the business.

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One of the first private schools held in this district was conducted in the east room of the W. C. Dinsmore home on East Mahoning Street. Dr. King taught different languages to many students who could not go elsewhere to school. This school was, in a way, a small high school.



Pantall Hotel—Corner East Mahoning and Jefferson Streets



# JEWELERS

## J. T. DAVIS AND SON

The J. T. Davis Jewelry Store was opened September 1, 1925, by J. T. Davis at 206 West Mahoning Street. This little store has quite an interesting background. Four times it has been robbed—by various methods. In 1929 robbers entered through a window in the back room. In 1931 they smashed the front window with a brick and entered the shop. Hoodlums removed the rear door from its hinges and entered the establishment in 1933. The thieves gained entrance through the skylight in 1939. In the 1936 flood the store suffered a total loss.

## FARNSWORTH'S JEWELRY

Farnsworth Jewelry Store was opened October 18, 1944, by the present manager and owner, Ralph A. Farnsworth. The store is located at 133 East Mahoning Street and features a complete line of jewelry, watches and watch repairing.

The personnel of the store includes Ralph Farnsworth, Mrs. Farnsworth, and Karl Link.

## KEITH'S JEWELRY STORE

E. N. Wehrle founded the Wehrle Jewelry Store. He was the first proprietor. The building was damaged by the 1936 flood. Mr. Wehrle came here in 1874 from Indiana, Pa., and bought the building and opened a jewelry store that was operated by himself until his death and then by his widow and daughter Cynthia. It was sold to Price and Nevling and then to George R. Koehler. F. P. Keith bought the store from George R. Koehler in June, 1948, and is the present proprietor. It has always been located at 230 East Mahoning Street.

## LANZENDORFER JEWELRY STORE

The Lanzendorfer Jewelry Store, located at 317 East Mahoning Street, was opened in 1905 by J. H. Lanzendorfer in the room adjoining the Rosenthal building. There was approximately one foot of water in the store during the 1936 flood. In 1947 the glass window was broken by burglars, but they were frightened away before anything was taken.

## PAUL R. SMITH'S JEWELRY STORE

Paul R. Smith's Jewelry Store was founded in 1945 by Paul R. Smith. Mr. Smith is the proprietor of the business, which is located at 123 Elk Run Avenue.

## C. R. STEWART JEWELRY STORE

C. R. Stewart came to Punxsutawney in August, 1924, to work for the Nevling Jewelry Store, located opposite Barclay Square, in the Wehrle Building. Mr. Stewart was head watchmaker and diamond setter for Mr. Nevling until Mr. Nevling sold his



Farnsworth Jewelry Store—133 East Mahoning Street

store in 1925. At that time, Mr. Stewart rented a room over the jewelry store from Mr. Wehrle and conducted his own watch repair and diamond setting shop. The next year, the shop was moved to the Barclay Drug Store, located in the Spirit Building, but now occupied by the Spirit office.

In 1927, Mr. Stewart's business had grown to the extent that he had to have more space to operate his business. It was then that he moved to the present location in the Swartz Building, formerly occupied by the news stand owned by Oakley Beam.

After extensive remodeling and putting in a new line of merchandise, including fine jewelry, silverware, clocks, pens and pencils, Hamilton, Elgin and Bulova watches, Copley and Virgin diamond rings, Mr. Stewart has enjoyed a lucrative business for the past 25 years.

Mr. Stewart attributes his success to fair and honest dealing, and to the age old adage, that the customer is always right.

In 1930, Mr. Stewart married Betty Holland, of Kane, Pa. Since that time they have been blessed by five fine children. Charles, the eldest, who graduated from Punx'y High School as a two letter man, enlisted in the U. S. Navy in February of this year. The second son, Robert, is a junior in high school. The other children are George, Guy, and Patricia, the only daughter.

The first high school football team in Punxsutawney, coached by Mark Craig, of Brookville, was composed of Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, Joe Robinson, Dan Pefter, Frank Torrence, Sid Smith, Carlton Hughes, Fred Knarr, Sam McHenry, Harold Murray, Otto Framp-ton, Arthur Stockdale and Lewis Addelson. DuBois was the toughest opponent. Tom Mix played right half on the DuBois team. Tone Evans, Lew Boyer and Tommy Fugate were members of the DuBois eleven.



## LAUNDRIES

### PUNXSUTAWNEY AUTOMATIC LAUNDRY

The Punxsutawney Automatic Laundry, 101 Front Street, was founded on November 22, 1948, by Eugene F. Long and Joseph Hunter, Jr., who are partners. The business was born out of necessity because of the shortage of washing machines during the war. It is the first laundry of its type in Punxsutawney.

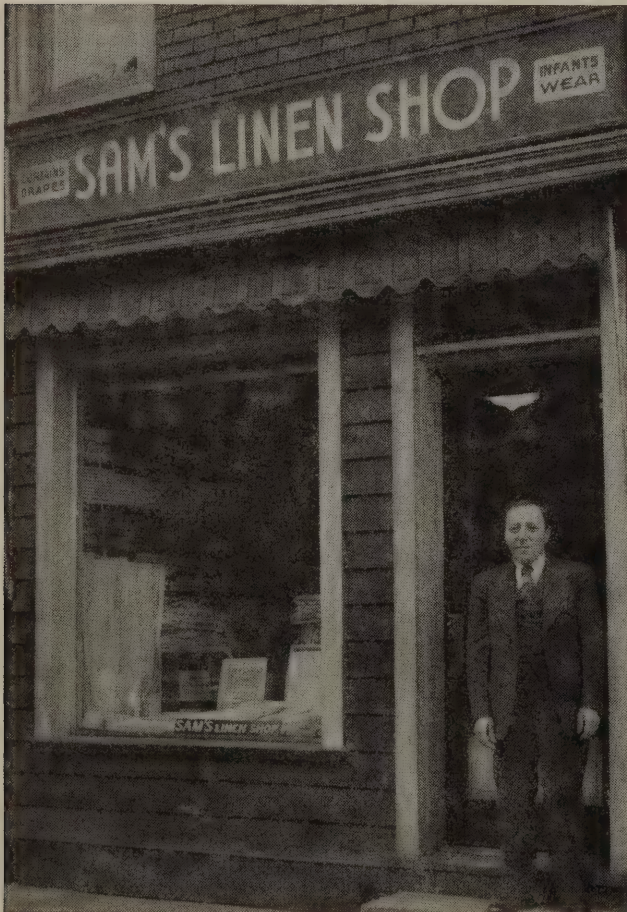
### PUNXSUTAWNEY STEAM LAUNDRY

The Punxsutawney Steam Laundry, 101 Tiona Street, previously located at 331 East Mahoning Street, was founded by Ira P. Campbell and Samuel Livengood in the building now occupied by the Dunmire Bakery on East Mahoning Street. The present proprietors are C. J. and W. C. Wolfe.

The building was damaged slightly in the flood of 1936. There were twenty-two inches of water on the inside. At one time the building was slightly damaged by fire.

Because of the increase in business ten are now employed in place of the former five.

## LINEN SHOP



SAM'S LINEN SHOP

Sam's Linen Shop was founded in 1936 at 234 West Mahoning Street by Y. B. Jamil, who is still the owner. The present address is 112 West Mahoning Street.

The name "Sam" was given to him as a "nickname" in 1921, when he settled in Punxsutawney, selling linens and curtains in the three county area, Clearfield, Indiana, and Jefferson. He was known as "Sam, the Linen Man" and "Sam, the Curtain Man," and is still known by these names; therefore, when he started the store, he named it Sam's Linen Shop to be known to the friends and customers, who knew him by the name, "Sam."

While Sam's Linen Shop was founded in 1936, actually its history goes back to 1921, over a quarter of a century ago.

## MILLINER

### ASH HAT SHOP

The Ash Hat Shop, one of 150 stores operated by the Ash Hat Co. throughout Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Virginia, was established in Punxsutawney in 1935. The store was then located where the Palace of Sweets now stands at 319 East Mahoning Street, and is now located at 130 West Mahoning Street. The first manager was Miss Kyt Shannon, who was replaced by the present manager, Ruth Miles. In March, 1936, seventy percent of all stock was ruined by the flood waters.

## NEWS AGENCY

### CITY NEWS AGENCY

Albert J. Wargo, formerly of Hamilton, Ohio, purchased City News Agency January 1, 1944, from Anthony Galinus.

Location of the business at that time was 217 North Findley Street. On October 1, 1947, the business was moved to the Pantall Hotel block, where it now remains.

Mr. Wargo is a wholesaler for Pittsburgh, New York, Philadelphia, DuBois, and Williamsport Grit papers. The City News Agency is owned and managed by Mr. Wargo.

## OFFICE SUPPLY

### HUNGER'S OFFICE SUPPLY

The Hunger Office Supply, which is located in the Hunger Building at 122 East Mahoning Street, is one of the more recent business establishments. The store is owned and managed by J. B. Hunger and son John. It was established in 1945.

This store is the authorized sales agent for the Underwood Corporation and distributes Underwood portable, standard, noiseless, and electric typewriters and Sundstrand adding and accounting machines in Jefferson and several adjoining counties.

Hunger's also represent the General Fireproofing Company of Youngstown, Ohio, who are the world's largest builders of business steel equipment including



the famous "Mode Maker" desks and a complete line of aluminum office chairs. A large stock of safes, check writers, duplicators or almost any type of office equipment is carried on the floor at all times, as well as a complete line of office supplies, loose leaf binders, and forms and blank books. In addition to office supplies and equipment, they handle a complete line of the better makes of stationery, Hallmark greeting cards, all the better known makes of fountain pens, billfolds, or almost any item usually found in the better stationery stores.

A factory trained mechanic is in charge of the service department where all makes and kinds of office machines are serviced. They not only carry the largest stock of fountain pens in town, but are the only local dealers giving pen service. They service what they sell.

A large supply of gift items are also available here as well as souvenir novelties and local view post cards.

### OFFICE AND SCHOOL SUPPLY AND BUSINESS MACHINERY STORE OF THE SPIRIT PUBLISHING COMPANY

When the J. M. Beyer store ceased the handling of school supplies The Spirit Publishing Company took over that business for this area and has operated continuously since, adding the most complete line of office forms and supplies to its steadily growing business. About 35 years ago the late W. O. Smith held the agency for Smith Premier typewriters. Later the agency for the L. C. Smith typewriter was secured and other office machinery was added to the line and soon this company was the distributing agent for various types of business machine equipment.

Currently (1949) Harry (Dutch) Stewart operates the school and office supply end of the business while Wayne R. Smith directs the office machine and service department. Seven persons are employed in the two departments, the gross business of which has more than quadrupled in the past six years.

The company holds the exclusive agency in a six county area for Allen Wales business machinery, L. C. Smith typewriters, Sound Scriber dictating equipment, and in Jefferson County for Steele Age office furniture, National blank books and loose leaf devices, Gunlocke and Cramer office and posture chairs.

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## OIL COMPANIES

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### AMERICAN OIL COMPANY

The American Oil Company opened the Punxsutawney Branch in 1929. This was the first time Amoco products had been sold in this area.

During the past twenty years the branch has expanded and now serves Jefferson County and parts of Clearfield, Indiana and Armstrong Counties.

The company markets gasoline, kerosene, fuel oils, and a complete line of lubricating oils and greases, both automotive and industrial, together with tires, batteries, and numerous other T.B.A. items.

The gasoline, sold by the American Oil Company in this area, is produced in their refinery at Texas City, Texas, and shipped via their own boats to Philadelphia where it is pumped into a pipe line that starts in Philadelphia and ends in Pittsburgh. The gasoline is drawn from this pipe line at various points along the way—that which reaches Punxsutawney being taken from the line at Altoona, Pa., and stored in large tanks and distributed via trailer trucks to Punxsutawney, Blairsville, Philipsburg, Johnstown, and other American Oil Company plants within a defined area.

The Punxsutawney branch of the American Oil Company is now operated as a commission agency by Dan E. Williams of this city and gives steady employment to six persons.

This branch operates a fleet of five trucks and cars, owned by Mr. Williams and purchased from Punxsutawney firms.

### GULF OIL CORPORATION

The Punxsutawney plant of the Gulf Oil Corporation, which employs seven men, is owned and operated by the company.

The Gulf Oil Corporation first started operations in this area in 1927, at which time the products handled were completely petroleum derivatives and served only that field. Since that time, however, additions have been made until, at the present time, a complete line of tires, tubes, batteries, and accessories is offered in addition to the full line of gasoline, oils, and industrial lubricants.

Products of the company's own refineries as well as associated lines are supplied to dealers in parts of Jefferson, Indiana and Clearfield Counties. Gasoline stocks for this area are shipped into Kittanning by motor transport. Packaged oils and greases come from the Philadelphia refinery while most speciality products such as insecticides, waxes, etc., are supplied from the larger refinery located at Port Arthur, Texas.

The Gulf Oil Corporation was located at 116 Indiana Street until July 1, 1949, when the bulk plant was moved to Kittanning.

### SINCLAIR OIL COMPANY

The Sinclair Oil Company was established in Punxsutawney in 1920.

The company had one station in Punxsutawney. It was located on Front Street until the present Flood Control Project made it necessary to move the station. The company services 22 stations out of Punxsutawney and has 40 farm accounts.

The first agent of the company was Bert Fisher. Tom Lingenfelter and some others served between Fisher and Paul Greenawalt, the present agent (1949). Mr. Greenawalt became the agent in 1932 and has served for 17 years.

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The Jefferson Traction Company ceased operations in September, 1927. There was a last free ride with Burgess Tibby along. A group of souvenir hunters stripped the car. They barely left enough of the car for Roy Wood and Joseph Sheeser to get into the barn.



# PHOTOGRAPHERS

## FRAMPTON'S STUDIO

Frampton's Studio was founded about 1885 by John W. Frampton, who was associated with Alan Work. The business was known as the Frampton and Work Studio. Later Mr. Frampton bought out Mr. Work, and the studio became known as Frampton's Studio. About 1900 John R. Frampton entered the business with his father. After the latter's death about 1930, John R. became the proprietor. He sold the studio in 1942 to Jean White, but it has continued in operation under the name of Frampton's Studio.

The main work of the studio is the finishing of amateur films and pictures. As in the early days, there is a considerable amount of portraiture done.

In 1921 a fire in the building caused considerable damage to the studio and the loss of a file of negatives as well as other equipment.

The studio has one of the few natural daylight skylights in Pennsylvania.

## REED'S STUDIO

Reed's Studio was founded June 21, 1948, by Harold K. Reed and Robert E. Reed. The studio, located at 225 West Mahoning Street, is under the direction of Harold K. Reed.

## JEAN H. WHITE STUDIO

The White Studio was founded in 1897 and has been continuously in business for more than fifty-two years, making portrait and commercial photographs.

In 1897 Edwin T. White purchased the Lowe Art Gallery from D. A. Lowe, who had been a photographer and had handled paintings, prints, and ornate frames.

The studio entrance address was 131 W. Mahoning Street, the same address as of today in 1949, and the studio quarters were on the second floor of the John H. Fink building. There was a camera room with a northern exposure skylight, a reception room for the display of various kinds of photographs, picture frames, and Kodaks; as well as several work rooms.

In 1919 Jones Brothers purchased the Fink Building, vacated and demolished it, and built a three-story brick structure. During this reconstruction, White Studio was located opposite the Post Office, but upon completion of the new building, returned to its former site.

The business prospered from its very inception because of the outstanding quality of the photographs produced. Not only was the work of good technical quality, but it evidenced an appreciation for high artistic values. It was recognized that people are more particular about their own appearance in a photograph than is their concern over any other personal consideration, even health. "Good work for a fair price" has proven an excellent motto at White Studio for more than half a century.

Between 1903 and 1905 Oscar Miller and E. Clay White successively were partners with Edwin T.

White. Mr. Miller opened a studio about 1905 in Lakewood, Ohio; and in 1906 E. Clay White opened a studio in Tarentum, Pa., where he still conducts a photograph establishment. E. Clay White is a brother of the late Edwin T. White.

Jean H. White became associated in photography with his father, E. T. White, at an early age.

After Punxsutawney High School he attended the Southern School of Photography at McMinnville, Tennessee, and there learned special techniques in portraiture under the tutelage of Prof. W. S. Lively.

In 1935 after the death of his father, Jean H. White bought the White Studio and continued the photographic business. Later he bought the Frampton Studio where film finishing is the main field. The number of employes varies according to the season, at times fifteen or more persons have worked with Mr. White in the several departments.

While portraiture has been the most active field, many commercial photographs, exterior views, pictures of machinery, photographs inside the coal mines, pictures of families, and wedding photographs are all covered by White Studio service. Candid photography, a comparatively new field especially for recording all of the phases of weddings and school activities is now in demand and special equipment is on hand for doing it.

Jean H. White Studio has one of the most complete files of negatives in western Pennsylvania. Negatives back to 1897 are available from which sparkling new photographs can be had. New pictures are often requested from negatives on file and numerous pictures are in this History of Punxsutawney that would not have been possible without it.

All negatives were on glass until 1920, when Jean White inaugurated the use of a then newly developed portrait film.

It is interesting to note that White Studio has photographed six different generations of the same families on many occasions. The first of those six generations had sons who were Civil War Veterans and of course were quite aged when photographed by E. T. White. Now Jean H. White is photographing babies of the sixth generation.

# RADIOS AND SERVICE

## ALTIMORE'S RADIO SHOP

Altimore's Radio Shop was founded in November, 1946, by Sam Altimore, its first manager, at 238 North Findley Street. The establishment, now located at 316 Pine Street, is under the management of Joseph Altimore.

## JOE BEATTY'S RADIO SHOP

The building in which Joe Beatty's Radio Shop is located was erected in 1923 as an office for William W. Winslow, attorney and justice of the peace. The attractive English style one-story structure with its small paned windows was built on land belonging to the Central Y.M.C.A. The building was occupied



by Mr. Winslow until his death on February 9, 1936, at which time James Pearce rented the room from the Y.M.C.A. for a radio shop. In January, 1942, Mr. Pearce sold his repair business to Cecil J. Payne, and it was renamed Payne Radio Shop. When Cecil entered the Signal Corps on December 7, 1942, Earl Payne, Cecil's brother, and George Weiss ran the business.

In April, 1946, Mr. Payne sold his repair business to Joe Beatty, a veteran of World War II. The shop has had many improvements and changes, including new test equipment, larger stock, new front window, and neon signs. Mr. Beatty built an extension to the rear to make more room for the new television test

equipment. The present proprietor is Joe Beatty.

The Joe Beatty Radio Shop was the first store to introduce television into Punxsutawney. The set made its appearance in the repair shop January 11, 1949.

### BRUNNER RADIO SERVICE

The Brunner Radio Service is located at 416 East Mahoning Street. The business was founded by Gerald Brunner in the year of 1932. The building was damaged to some extent in the 1936 flood. The first proprietor was Mr. J. C. Smith and the present proprietor is Gerald Brunner. The business has increased considerably.



ONE OF AREA'S FINEST FARMS—Pictured is the Eberhart Poultry Farm, located three miles east of this city, near the Municipal Airport. The photo was taken by Roy Harlan, Spirit photographer, from an airplane piloted by John Eberhart, son of the owner of the Eberhart farm.

## POULTRY FARM

### EBERHART POULTRY FARM

The Eberhart Poultry Farm, located three miles north of Punxsutawney, was established in 1920 by Merrill C. Eberhart on seven acres of ground purchased from Dr. J. Miles Grube. It now consists of 156 acres, on which are modern poultry and general farm buildings, modern incubators, and brooders. It produces thousands of baby chicks each year as well as other poultry, eggs, and general farm produce. The farm maintains a herd of from 15 to 25 pure bred, white-face Hereford beef cattle. Most of the rough land has been reforested with 85,000 pine and spruce trees. The farm has several of the finest springs of water in this section, one of which furnishes water for the residence and poultry buildings. From three to ten people are employed according to the season, and all modern farm machinery is used. The business is now conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Eberhart and their sons Donald G. and John M.



MERRILL C. EBERHART



## REPAIR SHOPS

### HAINES' REPAIR SHOP

The Haines' Repair Service, located at 500 Highland Avenue, was opened in January, 1945, by B. B. Haines. The shop specializes in the repair of office machines.

### SHERIFF'S FIXIT SHOP

Charles Sheriff founded his Fixit Shop on August 15, 1945, at 215 North Findley Street. Mr. Sheriff, a graduate of Punxsutawney High School, 1927, worked 17 years for Montgomery Ward and Co., in Punxsutawney. It was through this work that he gained the necessary experience to open his own shop. He specializes in radio repairing and other such odd jobs. In 1947 the Sheriff "Fixit Shop" was moved to 143 Pleasant Avenue where it is located today (1949).

## RESTAURANTS

### DUGANIER'S

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Duganier made plans for the purchase of Frank Lento's Lunch, situated at the corner of Ridge and Elk Run Avenues while they were living in Cleveland, Ohio. Both were born and reared in Punxsutawney. Mrs. Duganier is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Palmer (now deceased), of Cleveland, formerly of Punxsutawney. Her mother, who was owner and manager of the Palmer's Elk Run Lunch, was in business many years, until her health forced her to sell out, at which time she moved to Cleveland to receive special care. She felt that she would like to take up where her mother left off, since she had a thorough knowledge of the restaurant business, gained by helping her mother after school.

Mr. and Mrs. Duganier left Cleveland, December 7, 1948, and began operation of the restaurant on December 31 of the same year. They have been established for five months and are making plans for a dance floor.

### DUKE'S DAIRY

Duke's Dairy was founded August 1, 1948, by Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Schreckengost. It is located at the northwest corner of Front Street and East Mahoning Street. The present owner is V. E. Schreckengost. When the store opened, only sandwiches and ice cream were sold. At the present time meals are served.

V. E. Schreckengost was born in Ramsaytown, Jefferson County, and had his schooling in Brookville. He managed Sweetland confectionery in Clarion before entering the Army Engineers with which branch he served in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany. After his discharge in December, 1945, he man-

aged Wellers Dairy Store in New Bethlehem until January, 1947. Later in 1947, he decided to install in the location formerly used by the Grube Meat Market, a combination dairy store and delicatessen. In 1948 meals were added to the bill of fare.

Duke's Dairy Store continues to operate as a dairy store, delicatessen and restaurant.

### JIM'S GRILL

Jim's Grill is located at 126 East Mahoning Street. The present building was constructed in 1931. The former building, a frame structure which was built about 1900, was owned by Andrew Oliva from 1900 until October, 1921. On that date he sold it to W. S. Thorn and James Mallus, who immediately remodeled the store and reopened it October 22, 1921. It was then called "Candyland." Both candy and ice cream were manufactured there.

The first establishment in the old structure was Zeitler's Harness Shop. Then the Star Theater, which had silent movies and vaudeville acts, moved into the building. The Star Theater was owned by William Freas. The proprietor of the Sugar Bowl, which moved into the building in 1909, was Pete Johnson. When the new building was constructed, Jim's Grill and Nick's Recreation moved in. The building is now owned by Nick Genopolus. Since the death of James Mallus in 1944, his wife, Mrs. Helen Mallus, has been the owner of Jim's Grill.

### JOHNSON'S RESTAURANT

Johnson's Restaurant was started in 1932 by Peter Johnson at 136 East Mahoning Street. In 1902, this building was known as the Zeitler Building. Previous to that date, it housed a general dry goods store. It was also called the Hill and the Feicht Building.

Mr. Johnson, who came to this country from Constantinople in 1907, originally started a candy store in Punxsutawney. He bought the building in 1932 and managed the restaurant until his death at which time his wife took over the management. Mrs. Anna Johnson sold the restaurant in 1944 to James Dalas.

Mike Balotes, the present owner, purchased the restaurant from Mr. Dalas in 1944. Mr. Balotes, who



JOHNSON'S RESTAURANT—Front to back: Betty Kromer, Mary Lorelli, Sam Stanley, Katherine Balotes, Mike Balotes.





MARY'S RESTAURANT—Front of counter: Delores Kelly; back of counter: Mary Kelly, Josephine Pluchinsky, Benjamin Kelly, Lucy Kelly.

came from Athens, Greece, in 1932, lived in New York City until 1944, when he came to Punx'y and purchased the Johnson Restaurant.

### MARY'S RESTAURANT

Mary's Restaurant, located at 214 North Findley Street, was founded in November, 1942, by Mary Gallina, known as Mary Kelly, the present owner.

Mary Gallina, who was born and reared in Punxsutawney, Pa., is the daughter of the late Anthony and Mrs. Gallina. She attended West End public school, and SS. Cosmas and Damian School. After completion of her schooling career, she worked in the silk mill which was located on Walnut Street in Punx'y.

When the mill moved out of Punx'y, Mary managed the New White Front Restaurant under the supervision of Felix C. V. Gatti until his death. Her only ambition and desire at that particular time was to establish a business of her own.

Not long after that she purchased the G. & L. Pharmacy and converted it into a restaurant.

In 1948, Mary remodeled her store room and installed new flooring, booths, lunch counter stools, soda fountain, and kitchen equipment.

This was all made possible through the full cooperation of her employes, who are her brother and sisters, Lucy, Josephine, Dolores, and Benjamin.

### PARENTE'S RESTAURANT

Parente's Restaurant, which is located at 103 Front Street, was originally opened in May, 1946, by Charles Weiss. On June 15, 1948, the restaurant was purchased by Mrs. Pauline Parente.

Mrs. Pauline Parente was born in Walston. On her 15th birthday she married Joseph Parente. She has had considerable experience in cooking, having cooked for Dr. Frank Lorenzo's summer camp, the Elks, and had catered to banquets, weddings, and private parties.

Her one ambition in life was to own a restaurant of her own. This dream came true June, 1948, when she purchased the Charles Weiss restaurant on Front Street. Since then, quite a few major changes have been made.

Mrs. Parente is the mother of two boys.

### THE PUNXSU QUICK LUNCH

The Punxsu Quick Lunch is located at 232 East Mahoning Street. It was founded in 1925 by Alex Stroples, who was later joined by Gust Petru as a partner. The restaurant was damaged only slightly by the 1936 flood.

The only increase in size of this establishment has been the addition of a 12 foot room at the rear.

Joseph Serian bought this restaurant from Alex Stroples and Gust Petru on June 11, 1946. Mr. Serian, the father of two children, was a coal miner before entering the restaurant business.

### PURITAN DAIRY

The Puritan Dairy was founded in October, 1936, by Anthony Barletta. Mr. Barletta, who was born in Italy and served in the First World War, came to this country in 1921 and settled in Punxsutawney. He was accompanied by his brother Peter Barletta with





whom he managed the Bonbonniere, which was located in the Pantall Hotel Building.

In 1932, he sold out the Bonbonniere which was also a confectionery store, and went back to visit his mother in Italy for six months. In 1935, he was married to Pauline Gatti, with whom, in 1936 after the 1936 flood, he started the Puritan Dairy.

After the death of Mr. Barletta in January, 1946, his wife, Pauline Barletta, took over the duties of the Puritan Dairy and has been conducting the business since then.

### RAFFETTO'S RESTAURANT

Raffetto's, established in 1895, is one of the pioneer business houses in Punxsutawney.

Ice cream manufacture in this district owes its success directly to the efforts of Dominic Raffetto, Italian-born, German-educated immigrant, who founded Raffetto's originally as a small retail fruit market. Working with his son Fred, the astute fruit dealer opened a small ice cream factory here in 1917. It proved to be the forerunner of today's modern Mahoning Maid Ice Cream Company, one of the outstanding organizations of its kind in Pennsylvania.

A man now in his early 90's, the successful one-time entertainer in Germany, who was later a merchant in Walden, New York, retired only recently. His son and grandsons now operate Raffetto's, converted into a restaurant in 1934 after a long period of years in the same location as a fruit and vegetable stand, ice cream parlor, confectionery and peanut concession. In this last Raffetto's acquired a lasting reputation for finest quality peanuts.

The gradual evolution from a small retail fruit market into today's modern, well-lighted and fully-staffed restaurant produced great changes in the exterior and interior of Raffetto's. Marble topped tables, gas lights, and old-fashioned eating habits disappeared in the face of chrome and polished leather upholstery, fluorescent lights and new booths.

Unlike many other business shops and restaurants in Punxsutawney that were hard hit during the St.

Patrick's Day flood of 1936, only minor damage occurred at Raffetto's.

Still family-owned and operated, Raffetto's looks forward to at least another half century of business at its present location.

### SALVAGGIO'S RESTAURANT

The Salvaggio's Restaurant located at 232 North Findley Street was founded in 1919 by Antonio Salvaggio and his son, Frank Salvaggio, who came from Delancey, Pa., where they had owned and operated a general merchandise store. Originally the restaurant was known as the Texas Hot Wiener and served sandwiches and refreshments. In 1932 Frank Salvaggio became the sole owner. The eating place was enlarged, and they began to serve meals daily. During the flood of 1936 the restaurant was damaged to the extent of four thousand dollars. It has been remodeled again in the past year and caters to a large group of business men and school children.

### STAR LUNCH

The Star Lunch, operated by Frank Mamolito, was originally established in a little room located at 229 North Findley Street, on January 10, 1924. This was later sold to Roy Lyle on January 10, 1926. Mr. Mamolito then established his business at 213 North Findley Street, on Sept. 1, 1926.

In 1936, the store was damaged by the flood to the extent of \$300. On November 11, 1939, a car ran into the front of the store damaging the whole exterior to the extent of over \$500. A new window, new frame work, and a new door were necessary.

Frank Mamolito has been its sole owner and manager.

## RUG CLEANERS

### GRAUL'S RUG CLEANING

Graul's Rug Cleaning, the only such service in Punxsutawney, was founded in 1939 by Earl H. Graul. Most of the work done is in April, May, and June at his place of business on 106 Lane Avenue.

## SHOE REPAIR SHOPS

### BROCIOUS' SHOE REPAIR

This shop was founded twelve years ago by Mervin B. Brocious, 118 North Jefferson Street. The present operators are Mervin Brocious and his son, Mervin Brocious, Jr. He is a disabled World War I veteran.

### CARLINO'S SHOE REPAIR

Carlino's Shoe Repair, which began business about thirty-one years ago, is currently located at 122 Church Street. There were five feet of water in the place during the 1936 flood. In 1947 there was a minor fire. Mike Carlino, the founder, is the present proprietor.



## GUALTIERI SHOE SHOP

The Gualtieri Shoe Shop, located at 312½ East Mahoning Street, was established September 15, 1914, by the present day (1949) manager, Tony Gualtieri.

## JIM'S SHOE REPAIR

Jim's Shoe Repair Show was founded by William Stumph, who was the first shoemaker in Punxsutawney. James Morbito, the present owner of the shop, first worked as an apprentice for William Stumph. The apprenticeship covered the years from 1927 until 1936.

The first Bill Stumph Shoe Repair Shop was located on South Gilpin Street, but later, Decoration Day of 1936, it was moved to 96 North Gilpin Street in the Keystone Building.

## MANZONI'S SHOE REPAIR

Manzoni's Shoe Repair was opened at 317 East Mahoning Street in 1935 by Joe Manzoni. In November, 1936, it was moved to 111½ Elk Run Avenue. This establishment, which is still operated by Mr. Manzoni, was damaged in the 1936 flood to the extent of two hundred dollars.

## VITELLO'S SHOE REPAIR

The Vitello's Shoe Repair was founded by Anthony Villella, who was also its first manager. The shop is located at 229 N. Findley Street under the present management of Alphonso Vitello.

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## SHOE SHINE PARLOR

### CITY HAT CLEANING AND SHOE SHINE

D. V. Fernichio became the owner of the City Hat Cleaning and Shoe Shine in 1945. The establishment is now located at 218½ East Mahoning Street. Former owners of the business were Mr. Harris and Mr. Boyer.

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## SHOE STORES

### BROWN'S BOOT SHOP

Brown's Boot Shop, a family shoe store, has been a Punxsutawney establishment for the past 37 years. The store here, which was the third established by the firm, began business in October, 1911, when the stock of the Lucas Shoe Store, then located on North Findley Street (in what is now the Army & Navy Club building) was purchased. The store was moved, after three years, into the rooms now occupied by the Ragley Maytag Store on East Mahoning Street, and six months later was moved into the room at 126 West Mahoning Street, now Stewart's Drug Store, and business was conducted in that location for over 32 years. On October 16, 1947, a new store was opened in their own building, the former Beyer Drug Store, at 106 West Mahoning Street. The present store consists of two floors. The first floor is devoted to the

exclusive sale of women's footwear and hosiery; the second floor, to men's and children's footwear and hosiery. The two floors of the new store constitute the largest space devoted exclusively to the retailing of footwear and hosiery in Western Pennsylvania.

Brown's Punxsutawney store, the oldest shoe store in the city, is one of twenty-four stores which now comprise the Brown Boot Shop chain, headquarters for which are located in DuBois, Pa.

## HARL'S SHOE STORE

Harl's Shoe Store was opened in May, 1908, at 113 East Mahoning Street. In 1917 it was moved next door to what is now Harl's Men's Department. Mr. Harl sold out in 1927 to the G. R. Kinney Company, but he continued to manage the store for ten years. After the 1936 flood the business was moved to 121 West Mahoning Street. In 1937 Mr. Harl opened his own store at 129 East Mahoning Street. The business grew so rapidly that in 1939 another room was annexed. In 1946 the store was completely remodeled and a new modern front was added. Harl's Shoe Store was one of the first in Western Pennsylvania to install x-ray fitting equipment.

## LINTZ'S SHOE STORE

Lintz's Shoe Store succeeded the Peerless Shoe Company and was founded in April, 1930, by Aaron Lintz, the present manager and owner. It was located at 123 West Mahoning Street until 1933, when it was moved to 127 West Mahoning Street in the same building. In 1936, the store suffered \$500 damage from flood waters. The staff of the store includes Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Lintz, Barbara Kessler and John Mecka.

The business has increased considerably since 1930.

## LORENZO BROTHERS SHOE STORE

The Bootery was established in 1926 by Mrs. Florence Grinder, who managed the store until her death in February, 1946. In April of the same year, it was purchased by Francis D. and Charles R. Lorenzo, the present managers.

After being closed for the next two months, it was opened as Lorenzo Brothers' Shoe Store, a women's specialty shop. The store is located at 121 North Findley Street.

Gerre's Dress Shop was opened in October, 1946, on the second floor of the shoe store. It is managed by Mrs. Gerre Lorenzo.

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## SIGNS

### JOE BENSON'S SIGNS

Joe Benson, who was born in Anita and reared in Punxsutawney, graduated from an advertising and display school in Chicago in 1934. He worked at the sign crafts in Chicago and Pittsburgh and later joined H. S. Frew in the operation of the Sign Shop, which was located next to the Municipal Building. At present, Mr. Benson specializes in window and truck lettering and general commercial signs, but does not handle neon or highway bulletin signs. The present location is 308 North Findley Street.



## OLIVER'S OUTDOOR ADVERTISING

Oliver's Outdoor Advertising, located at 217 Ashland Avenue, was founded in 1936 by Ted Oliver, the present owner. Mr. Oliver erects billboards, paints signs and also does neon work.

## SPORTING GOODS

### DUBOIS PUNX'Y CYCLE STORES

The DuBois and Punx'y Cycle Store was founded by R. E. Caldwell March 15, 1923. This store, which was first located at 114 Indiana Street, was damaged by the 1936 flood. The business was later moved to 224 Front Street where it is now located.

In both Punxsutawney and DuBois, the Cycle Stores sell and repair Harley-Davidson motorcycles, bicycles, and accessories. R. E. Caldwell, who founded the business, is still proprietor.

### JORDAN'S SPORT SHOP

Jordan's Sport Shop was founded June 5, 1936, by Don and Phil Jordan, the present owners. The store, which is located on the southeast corner of East Mahoning and Penn Streets, carries sporting goods, models, and supplies.

### H. M. WILLIAMS SPORTING GOODS

This sporting goods store, which is located at 113 North Penn Street, is owned and operated by H. Merrill Williams. Mr. Williams bought the business in 1918 from J. M. Reams, from whom he had learned the art of gun repair while serving as an apprentice.

The store carries sporting goods, guns, ammunition, fishing tackle, and bicycles. Mr. Williams also repairs guns, bicycles, and locks.

## TAXICABS

### PUNXSUTAWNEY TAXICAB COMPANY

The Punxsutawney Taxicab Company was founded in 1914 by Matt Cesario. Originally, the company occupied the space behind the Punxsutawney Hotel, but it is now located at 109 Pine Street. Mr. Cesario, who brought the first bus into Punxsutawney, started with two drivers, and two Ford cars. Now he employs twenty-two drivers and owns four taxis, and twelve buses. Mr. Cesario lost three buses in the 1936 flood. He plans to build a bus terminal opposite the new A. & P. in the summer of 1949.

## UPHOLSTERING

### CLARK'S UPHOSTERY

Clark's Upholstery was founded in 1945 by Max S. Clark, Jr. It is located at 804 W. Mahoning Street. Side line upholstery of car seats and furniture are made there.

## KOCHER UPHOLSTERING

The Kocher Upholstering was started in 1946 by C. W. Kocher. The business was located on Horatio Street until June, 1947, when it was moved to the present location, 317 Indiana Street. There are three employees besides Mr. Kocher.

## VARIETY STORES



The Nolph Store

### J. G. NOLPH CO.

The J. G. Nolph Company is now owned and operated by R. J. Troutman. This company, which is one of the town's oldest firms, carries a large line of newspapers, magazines, books, jewelry, toys, office supplies, and greeting cards. R. J. Troutman has made various improvements: the store was revamped, new cases were installed, new shelves were built, window frames were painted, new magazine stands were built, new counters were installed, and the store was restocked.

The J. G. Nolph Company was established in 1905 by Mr. Nolph and operated by him until his death in 1932. Mr. Nolph first began business in the Beyer Building. Later, he rented a larger room in the Winslow Building on the southwest corner of Mahoning and Gilpin Streets. The store, at one time, occupied the rooms now used by Harl's Shoe Store in addition to the room it now occupies in the Pantall Building.

After the death of Mr. Nolph in 1932, Mrs. Nolph operated the business until 1947 when she sold the store to Mr. Troutman.

### WOLFE'S VARIETY STORE

Wolfe's Variety Store was founded by Lee Wolfe, November 18, 1946, at 923 West Mahoning Street. In April of 1948 the store was moved to 924 West Mahoning Street.

Sidney S. Smith, of this city, as a member of the Penn State eleven, with Sam Boyle as coach, played against Bucknell at Bucknell in 1899 when Christy Matthewson, New York pitcher, was fullback.



## WALLPAPER STORES

### McMILLEN'S WALLPAPER STORE

McMillen's Wallpaper Store, which is located at 309 E. Mahoning Street, was founded in November, 1946, by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn O. McMillen. Mr. McMillen is the present manager.

### MARUCA'S WALLPAPER AND MUSIC STORE

The Maruca Wallpaper and Music Store, 216 North Findley Street, was founded in 1932 by Anthony Maruca, who is the present proprietor. It suffered heavy damage from the 1936 flood. The business has increased about 60 percent since establishment. The store sells wallpaper, paints, window shades, and musical instruments.

## BANKS

### EARLY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY NATIONAL BANK

The County National Bank was organized on October 1, 1910. It opened for business on October 11 of the same year in the Spirit building, and occupied those quarters temporarily until the permanent place of business could be remodeled. The bank purchased the building known as the Jacob Zeitler property, situated at 118 East Mahoning Street. After necessary alterations were made to this building, the bank took up its quarters there where it enjoyed a steady growth.

W. J. Brown was elected the bank's president; John R. Pantall, vice president, and J. E. Pantall, cashier. The credit for the successful organization of the County National Bank was, in a large measure, due to the untiring efforts of those three officers. W. J. Brown served as the president of the bank until he retired from active business life on February 14, 1919. J. E. Pantall served as cashier until his death in March, 1920.

The following men were elected from the stockholders as the first board of directors: W. F. Brown, John R. Pantall, E. W. Smith, W. B. Adams, W. J. Brown, J. E. Pantall, O. P. Grube, P. C. Sutter, H. L. Grube, Geo. D. Jenks, and E. N. Wehrle.

### FARMERS AND MINERS TRUST COMPANY

On June 27, 1901, a group of local citizens called a meeting and formed plans to organize a bank to be known as the Farmers' National Bank of Punxsutawney. A charter was obtained from the Federal Government, capital of \$50,000.00 was raised, and the following were the original directors and officers: Samuel States, president; Sanford Neale, vice president; Jeff G. Wingert, secretary of board of directors; James H. Maize, cashier; William Elwood, James H. Prothero, J. Pogue North.

A committee, appointed to select a location for the bank, recommended the property on the corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets, then owned by J. B. Eberhart, which was purchased and remodeled for



Farmers & Miners Trust Company

banking purposes and has been the location of the bank since that time.

In 1907 the directors decided to increase the capital to \$150,000.00 and to obtain a state charter to operate a Trust Department. The name of the new bank was designated as the Farmers & Miners Trust Company. The charter was obtained from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 8, 1907, and the Farmers & Miners Trust Company purchased the property and assets of the Farmers' National Bank and succeeded it.

The original directors and officers of the Farmers & Miners Trust Company were: Samuel States, president; John H. Fink, vice president; James H. Maize,



secretary-treasurer; F. O. Snyder, T. C. Zeitler, William Elwood, Albert Jordan, Jeff G. Wingert, J. Pogue North, James H. Prothero, E. B. Henderson.

The Farmers & Miners Trust Company has continued in the same location to the present time and statement as of December 31, 1948, showed resources totaling \$7,339,946.02 and trust assets of \$361,519.22. Present directors are Leon H. Hoffman, J. Guy Kelly, Oscar Light, H. Ward McQuown, William B. Means, Walter E. Morris, H. Quay Morrison, William E. Quinlisk, L. E. Startzell, W. G. Thomas, and Herman F. Weiss. Officers for the year 1949 are: J. Guy Kelly, president; H. Ward McQuown, vice president; Norman L. Boddorf, treasurer and trust officer; James B. Quinlisk, secretary; Chester T. Kuntz, assistant secretary-treasurer; W. Ross Startzell, assistant secretary-treasurer, and Morris & Morris, solicitors.

### THE PUNXSUTAWNEY NATIONAL BANK

The Punxsutawney National Bank was organized January 9, 1901, with capital of \$100,000.00 and the following officers: W. W. Winslow, president; S. A. Rinn, vice president; F. C. Lang, cashier; J. L. Kurtz, assistant Cashier. The following stockholders were elected as directors: John B. Bair, T. M. Kurtz, L. W. Robinson, W. S. Blaisdell, J. W. Osterhout, W. H. Tyson, H. G. Bowers, S. A. Rinn, and J. A. Weber.

The total resources of the bank as of December 10, 1901, were \$603,912.29. In January, 1902, L. W. Robinson was elected president, which position he held until January, 1909, when he declined, and S. A. Rinn was elected president. The capital stock of the bank was increased from \$100,000.00 to \$200,000.00 in 1909 and the First National Bank was consolidated with the Punxsutawney National Bank the same year.

In 1923, the Punxsutawney National Bank purchased their present building from T. M. Kurtz. In

1924, Irwin Simpson was elected president, replacing S. A. Rinn, deceased. In 1926, F. C. Lang resigned as cashier and B. W. Young was elected cashier. In 1929, E. H. Winslow was elected president, replacing Irwin Simpson, deceased.

The assets of the County National Bank were purchased by the Punxsutawney National Bank in 1937, and a night depository was installed.

P. L. Brown was elected president in 1938, succeeding E. H. Winslow who resigned to become chairman of the board, which position he still holds. J. L. Kurtz was elected cashier in 1943. Mr. Kurtz resigned as cashier in 1944 and was succeeded by Robert M. Gay. J. L. Kurtz was re-elected as assistant cashier.

The surplus was increased to \$500,000.00 in 1946, and George P. Grube was elected president, succeeding P. L. Brown, who resigned to become vice-chairman of the board, which position he held until 1949, when he resigned from the board of directors. Robert M. Gay resigned as cashier in 1947, and Eugene S. Fry was elected cashier. A "Drive-in Window" was installed in 1948 for the convenience of the customers enabling them to make deposits and cash checks without leaving their cars.

The Punxsutawney National Bank has had a steady and healthy growth since it was organized, and at the present time it is the largest bank in Jefferson County with resources of \$8,500,000.00 as of December 31, 1948. At the present time, the officers and directors of the bank are: E. H. Winslow, chairman of the board; George P. Grube, president; Alva L. Cole, vice president; Eugene S. Fry, cashier; J. L. Kurtz, assistant cashier; W. R. Chilcott, assistant cashier; J. E. McCreight, assistant cashier, and G. Emery Schwartz, auditor. The directors are: Ned L. Brown, Alva L. Cole, J. Edward Doran, E. D. Fry, George P. Grube, Benjamin Levy, Sam Light, W. D. McGregor, James C. McLeavy, E. Earl North, Robert S. Philliber, E. H. Winslow, Paul Wehrle.—By Eugene S. Fry.



Punxsutawney National Bank

## LOAN COMPANIES

### CAPITAL FINANCE CORP.

About 1940 the Capital Finance Corporation took over the Empire Personal Loan Co., which had been opened in Punxsutawney about 1932. The present manager is Donald F. Kurtz, and Mary M. Hudzick is the cashier. The business maintains a small loan department in addition to a consumer discount loan department. This office serves about a forty-mile radius of Punxsutawney. In December, 1948, two large neon signs were erected by the company, which is located on the second floor of the Swartz Building on the northwest corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets.

"Metheglin," a drink made from honey; whiskey, small beer, rye coffee, buttermilk, sassafras, sage and mint leaves were population pioneer drinks.





### THE THRIFT PLAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Thrift Plan of Pennsylvania, Incorporated, was first established in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on April 8, 1936. The Punxsutawney branch was opened on July 9, 1939, in the Fisher Building, 217½ West Mahoning Street. Harry R. Hickox and James G. Sonderson formed this corporation for the purpose of organizing a moderate rate small loan company.

## INSURANCE

### AMERICAN UNDERWRITERS' AGENCY

The American Underwriters' Agency is located in the Keystone Building Number One at 200 West Mahoning Street. The agency was opened on September 12, 1948, by Karl K. Smock, who is still the manager. The agency handles life, fire, accident, automobile insurance, health, hospitalization, and bonds.

### BALTIMORE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

The local office was opened in 1938 by Frank A. Fear. Previous to this time, Punxsutawney was serviced by agents working out of the DuBois office. The company has so progressed since that time that it now has \$1,900,000 of life insurance in force in the Punxsutawney office and has an agency force of six agents serving the public.

John H. Graham, who is the staff superintendent in charge of the Punxsutawney office, started as an agent under Frank Fear in May, 1940, and was promoted to superintendent in DuBois, Pa., in May, 1942. In May, 1944, part of the area serviced by the DuBois office was transferred to the Punxsutawney office. Mr. Graham was also transferred back to Punxsutawney.

The names of the agents working out of the Punxsutawney office and their years of service with the company are as follows: Wayne H. Pearce, 10 years; Pearl E. VanDyke, 5 years; Frank A. Lorenzo, 4 years; Guy J. Bianco, 10 years; Vada Bullers, 5 years; Louis J. Reo, 1½ years; Dorothy Handyside, clerk, 3 years.

### HORACE A. BROWN GENERAL INSURANCE

Horace A. Brown, a native of Indiana County, came to Punxsutawney in 1925 with the firm of Kurtz and Hastings. He served as a fire and casualty broker and as an agent for the New England Life Insurance Company and the General American Life Insurance Company for 15 years. Mr. Brown then opened his General Insurance Agency at 206 North Findley Street in 1940 and continued this office for nine years. In his employ were Mrs. Izola Dickey Cavazza, Kenneth Williams, Mrs. Kenneth Rishell, Mrs. N. S. Scava, Leroy Zolner and George H. Jones.

On May 1, 1949, Mr. Brown sold his agency to the Robert M. Gay Associates who will take care of the fire and casualty business and Mr. Brown continues the life insurance business at the same location.





## GERALD B. CARRIER AGENCY

Gerald B. Carrier Agency, one of the old established insurance agencies of Punxsutawney, was organized in 1890 by George W. Fink, Lex N. Mitchell, and W. B. Adams under the name of Fink & Company. In 1903, Mr. Adams withdrew from the business and the agency was continued by Mr. Fink and Mr. Mitchell. In 1919, Walter E. Morris was taken into the firm. Upon the death of George Fink in October, 1926, the agency was purchased by Gerald B. Carrier and operated as Fink & Company. In November, 1948, Mr. Carrier purchased the George W. Stevenson Agency and the two agencies were combined under the Gerald B. Carrier Agency.

This agency has had its office in what is now the Swartz Building, at the corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets, since the building was first occupied in 1903.

## ROBERT M. GAY ASSOCIATES, INC.

On March 11, 1948, Robert M. Gay, together with John P. Prushnok and Ralph W. Neal, organized the Robert M. Gay Associates, General Insurance. This was accomplished through the absorption of the Jacob Zeitler and Frank and McLeavy companies, both old established general insurance agencies. Subsequently, on May 9, 1949, the Horace A. Brown Agency was purchased. The location of the company was 218 N. Findley Street from its inception, until June 1, 1949, when removal was effected to 224 North Findley Street, into offices formerly occupied by the Jefferson Insurance Agency.

The Zeitler Agency was established in 1856 by Jacob Zeitler who came to Punxsutawney in 1853 from Brady's Bend, Pennsylvania, primarily to establish

a harness shop. Mr. William Weiss, a brother of Herman Weiss, was associated with Mr. Zeitler. At this time, the agency was located in the building now occupied by Jim's Grill, 126 East Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney. In 1898, the Zeitler insurance business was taken over by George Glenn, and moved to the second floor of the Mutual Bldg. & Loan Association Building, 117 East Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, now the Rosenthal Building, where it remained until purchased by the Gay Associates. In later years, Mr. Glenn's son, William, operated the agency with him, and continued in the business after the father's death in 1946.

The Frank and McLeavy Agency was the outgrowth of Brown Brothers Agency, established in 1888 by Walter and Porter Brown, both of whom operated in Brookville. The agency was instituted in Punxsutawney as a result of expansion by the company in the field of general insurance, and was originally located in the John Zeitler Building, now the Johnson Building, 128-36 East Mahoning Street, on the second floor in offices now occupied by W. C. Tibby, tax collector. Subsequently, the agency was moved to 218 North Findley Street across from the Post Office. In the late 1920's the agency was purchased by Lee Neil, and in the late 1930's, James McLeavy and Herbert Frank, Jr., took over; both companies operating under the trade name of Brown Brothers. Subsequently, however, the name was changed to Frank and McLeavy.

The Horace A. Brown Agency was established in 1940 by Horace A. Brown and was located at 206 North Findley Street, in the Army and Navy Club Building. Mr. Brown had for many years, prior to the establishment of his own company, operated as a broker and agent through the Kurtz and Hastings Agency.



Robert M. Gay Associates, Inc.—Front row, left to right: Louise S. Kurtz, Robert M. Gay, Clarence W. Whitesell. Second row: Marion Shumaker, Izola D. Cavazza, Ellen Ferrara. Standing: Lucille V. Scava.



## DAVIS INSURANCE AGENCY

In the Gilbloom Building (now Montgomery Ward Store building) Thomas R. Davis started the general insurance business. Later the office was in the Spirit Building, and from there in 1926 moved to the Farmers and Miners Trust Company Building on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets. The Davis Insurance office is now located there. Mr. Davis will be eighty-eight years of age on October 3, 1949. He retired in 1946 and the business is now owned and operated by his daughter, Jane. From December, 1918, to June, 1936, she was in the office of Kurtz and Hastings Insurance Company. Then, she went into business with her father.

## GILLILAND'S INSURANCE COMPANY

The State Farm Insurance Agency was founded July 14, 1940, by W. E. Gilliland. The present location of this company is at 202 South Penn Street. Gilliland's Insurance Company is also known as the Farm Agency.

## DILTZ S. GOURLEY INSURANCE AGENCY

The Diltz S. Gourley Insurance Agency was established in 1921 by Daniel F. Gourley. The firm was taken over by Diltz S. Gourley in 1939. The office is in the Farmers and Miners Trust Company Building.

## JEFFERSON INSURANCE AGENCY

The Jefferson Insurance Agency was started as a co-partnership, with Wm. F. Smith as manager. In February, 1932, it was incorporated with A. L. Light, H. A. Philliber, A. R. McHenry, Robert L. Hamill, William F. Smith and George C. Painter as stockholders. The office of the agency was originally located on the seventh floor of the Spirit Building on North Findley Street. In the fall of 1935 it was moved to 224 North Findley Street, and in June of 1949 to its present location at 103 North Findley Street (Swartz Building).

## PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Prudential Insurance Company was established in October, 1875, by John F. Dryden. Mr. Dryden was also the first president. It was established in Punxsutawney in 1905. The location when established was 105 West Mahoning Street (2nd floor). The present location is 200-206 W. Mahoning Street (2nd floor). The present employees are one assistant district manager, one office clerk, and six agents.

## KURTZ AND HASTINGS

The Kurtz and Hastings Insurance Agency and real estate business began its existence in 1905 under the partnership of the late T. M. Kurtz and Frank B. Hastings. The firm was established at its present (1949) location, 107 South Jefferson Street.

Upon Mr. Hastings' death in 1929, his interest was purchased by T. M. Kurtz at which time his son, T. M. Kurtz Jr., began to take an active part in the business.

Miss Jane Davis, who entered the company in 1918, served in the capacity of secretary-treasurer for seventeen years. Miss Davis was replaced by Mrs. Louise Kurtz. Horace A. Brown was employed as a broker in 1925 and continued his work until 1936. All the

previously mentioned persons, who were associated with Kurtz and Hastings, are still engaged in the insurance business. Horace A. Brown now has his own agency, as does Miss Jane Davis. Mrs. Kurtz is secretary-treasurer for the Robert M. Gay Associates. T. M. Kurtz, Jr., is continuing the active operation of Kurtz and Hastings as owner and manager.

## NAY W. SHIELDS INSURANCE AGENCY

The Nay W. Shields Insurance Agency, organized in November, 1931, is located at 215 Virginia Avenue, Punxsutawney. At that time, Mr. Shields was employed as ticket agent in the office of the B. & P. Railroad Co., in this city. However, as the insurance business grew, he resigned his position with the railroad and devoted his full time to insurance.

For a number of years, he specialized in selling automobile insurance for "The State Automobile Association" in Harrisburg, Pa., which at this time is the largest insurer of automobiles in Jefferson County.

In 1938, he secured contracts with the following companies: The Standard Fire of New Jersey; Rhode Island Providence of Providence, Rhode Island; and the Maryland Casualty of Baltimore, Maryland.

In 1944, he purchased several insurance agencies, one being the "Maryland Casualty" of Baltimore, Md., formerly operated by William H. Johns of this city.

## THE THOMAS INSURANCE AGENCY

The Thomas Insurance Agency was founded in 1884 by John L. Thomas. Upon his death in 1935, the agency was taken over by his son, Fred Thomas. Three years later, 1938, the agency was under the management of William Thomas, who is the manager at the present time (1949).

The Thomas Insurance Agency was the first to write life insurance from Metropolitan in Punxsutawney. The business of the agency consisted of New York Life Insurance and Connecticut General Life Insurance. The agency still retains the Connecticut General Life Insurance.

Before the automobile was invented, John Thomas walked to Brookville, Reynoldsville, and other nearby towns to make sales, collections, etc.

The Thomas Insurance Agency covers all forms of life, fire, automobile, liability, bonds, glass, and aviation insurance.

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## MORTICIANS

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### THE CARL JORDAN FUNERAL HOME

Carl Jordan opened his first funeral home in 1900 in the Simpson Building, 204 North Findley Street, which is now owned by the American Legion. The business was moved to 118 North Jefferson Street, June 5, 1909. In 1919 Mr. Jordan bought the St. Elmo Hotel, 117 North Jefferson Street, and made extensive repairs which included a large chapel, modern morgue and casket display room. In 1939 a large garage was erected in the rear. After Mr. Jordan's death, on July 2, 1941, Joe J. Jordan and Paul R. Jordan assumed ownership with Donald R. Jordan, who is a licensed embalmer. Phil Jordan is also an employee.



## H. QUAY MORRISON FUNERAL HOME

The present H. Quay Morrison Funeral Home was started in June, 1920, by the purchase of a half interest with H. F. Sprankle. It was located at 103 East Union Street. The business was continued under the name of Sprankle and Morrison Funeral Home for six years at that location.

In September, 1926, Mr. Morrison purchased the present property at 113-117 South Gilpin Street and moved to the new location. Mr. Sprankle's interest in the business was purchased in 1928 by Mr. Mor-

risson. Since then it has been owned and managed by H. Quay Morrison.

## PIFER'S FUNERAL HOME

Pifer's Funeral Home was established in 1935 by Gilbert N. Hulme, who had previously been associated with the H. Q. Morrison Funeral Home. It was purchased in November, 1941, by Eugene W. Pifer, who is a graduate of Eckles College of Embalming in Philadelphia. The funeral home is located on the southwest corner of Union and Jefferson Streets.

# NEWSPAPERS

Punxsutawney's first newspaper, the *Mahoning Register*, was established in 1848 by Clark Wilson. However, because of lack of support, the paper was discontinued at the end of two years. In 1868, J. A. Scott and W. S. Barr of Brookville established and published the *Punxsutawney Plain Dealer*. In 1870, W. P. Hastings and G. M. Keck leased the establishment and continued the publication until 1871, at which time, Mr. Hastings' share was transferred to John K. Coxson who, with his partner, Mr. Keck, substituted the name *The Mahoning Regus*, for the former one. Mr. Coxson, who in a short time had taken over Mr. Keck's interest, continue the publication until 1877.

The *Punxsutawney Republican* was first published in Clayville, August 24, 1894, at the time that H. W. Work established the *Lindsey Press*. The *Press* was purchased by Clark Rodgers and Thomas J. Rodgers on February 19, 1899, and moved to Punxsutawney in November. The name was then changed to *Punxsutawney Republican*. The business was under the plan of a stock company until the year 1900 when Thomas J. Rodgers became owner. In 1915 a stock company purchased the *Republican* and changed the name to the *Punxsutawney Press* and secured the services of W. W. Winslow as editor. In 1916 David McQuown purchased the *Press* and was editor and publisher until 1917 when the *Press* was discontinued.

## PUNXSUTAWNEY NEWS

Horace G. Miller and Frank P. Tipton established the *Punxsutawney News* in October, 1885. A year later, J. L. Allison, principal of the Punxsutawney schools, purchased the interest of Mr. Tipton. Messrs. Miller and Allison continued the publication for the ensuing eight years. In 1893, Mr. Allison sold out to Wade Miller who, a year later, sold his interest to Peter Stockdale, and he in turn sold

to Adam Lowry, of Indiana. In 1895, H. G. Miller purchased Mr. Lowry's interest and since then he has been the sole proprietor. The business has always been located at 230 West Mahoning Street and is still operated by its founder, Horace Miller, who is one of the oldest living residents of the town.

## THE PUNXSUTAWNEY SPIRIT

The progenitor of *The Punxsutawney Spirit*, the *Mahoning Valley Spirit*, was first established in the building now occupied by the Barry Nation Wide Store, 222 West Mahoning Street. Until a few years ago, the name "Valley Spirit" could be discerned on the front of the building. In the late eighties, the plant was moved to the second floor of what was then known as the Snyder Building, which occupied lots 105-109 West Mahoning Street where the McCrory store is now located. In the nineties the plant was moved to the first and second floors of the building now occupied and owned by A. G. Rosenthal, 121-123 East Mahoning Street. It was in that building on September 17, 1906, that the first issue of *The Spirit* as a daily was published. W. O. Smith was then editor; James Simpson, managing editor, and Clymer Freas, city editor. In 1908 the company began the erection of a seven-story building on North Findley Street and in 1910 occupied three floors of it.

In addition to the daily newspaper, the Spirit Publishing Company operates a job printing plant; a binding and ruling department, where pen ruling is done by machinery far various phases of commercial printing and where books are bound and job printing is punched, padded, etc. In 1936, school supplies were added to the company's line under the direction of Lee S. North, deceased. Office supplies were later added and, at about the same time, the sale of office machine and its repair began. In



THE SPIRIT BUILDING—Home of Jefferson County's only daily newspaper, "The Punxsutawney Spirit." Executive offices, news plant, job printing plant, bindery, office machines department and retail store are located on first and second floors of the building.



1938 a photo engraving plant was established where engravings are made for use in the newspaper and for commercial use.

The job printing department, which was started about the same time that the weekly *Spirit* began operation in 1874, is in charge of J. Ammon Harlan. The binding and ruling department is directed by Clair K. North; the office and school supplies department, by Harry R. Stewart; the office machinery and service department, by Wayne R. Smith; and the engraving department, by Leroy S. Harlan with the actual work being done by Mrs. Daryl Kicher.

The present officers of the company are: P. L. Smith, president; Edward G. Smith, vice president; Sidney S. Smith, treasurer; J. A. Harlan, assistant treasurer. P. L. Smith is the publisher and editor. Sidney G. Carlton is managing editor. Ned L. Winslow is city editor. Samuel German and Miss Jean Reid comprise the news force, together with a host of correspondents in the surrounding area. Harry R. Gourley heads the advertising department; and Jack London, the circulation department. Howland and Howland are the national advertising representatives.

There are 46 persons on the payroll of the company in addition to the newsboys, correspondents, dealers, etc., and the payroll exceeds \$125,000 annually. The present ABC circulation of *The Spirit* is 6152.

## EARLY AMATEUR JOURNALISM

During the 1870's, less than 30 years after Punxsutawney was chartered as a borough, many ambitious young men in their teens throughout the United States had the contagious custom of publishing little newspapers. This fascinating and constructive hobby spread to our town and present records indicate that at least three such amateur newspapers were published here.

The first and longest lived of these papers was one edited and published by the late W. W. Winslow when he was a boy not yet 14 years of age. The first issue of *The Amateur Herald* bore the date April 15, 1876, on its masthead. The *Herald* was published twice a month, except on rare occasions—either through lack of copy, money or perhaps because of composing room difficulties—when it slipped into the monthly classification.

On April 28, 1877, Editor Winslow changed the name of his four-page, three-column sheet to *The Young Aspirant*, which name it carried until its demise August 15, 1879.

Another semi-monthly amateur newspaper came to life here June 15, 1877, when the first issue of *The Youth's Magnet* saw the light of day. The brain child of Horace Greeley Miller, who later grew up to be the editor and publisher of a weekly, *The Punxsutawney News*, the *Magnet* was published for three months, its last issue being dated September 15, 1877. Mr. Miller, who marked his 90th birthday this Centennial Year, is still quite active and has proved an invaluable help to historical researchers in quest of Centennial data.

The third amateur paper of which there is a record was George I. Gillespie's *The Valley Star*, which made its appearance on the journalistic horizon in July of 1876.

The contents of all three of these newspapers show a maturity amazing for the ages of their editors and

the major portion of the stories, poems and editorials still make excellent reading.

Published with the very simplest of equipment in attics, barns and wash-houses, the little papers had much to commend them. Time surely was not a premium when you consider that every single letter of each word had to be set by hand. It is no wonder they were published only twice or once a month.

The editors of these papers also found time to carry on an active exchange of ideas and articles with many of the other editors of the of the more than 1,500 amateur papers published in the United States that decade. Clippings from these other publications provided excellent space fillers.

Both youthful editors Winslow and Miller were active with their exchanges. Mr. Miller even chose such fancy nom de plumes as "Vio Lynn" and "O. Howe Greene, Esq."

Mr. Miller's files show that on July 30, 1877, the Gnat Town Amateur Press Association was organized in Punxsutawney. Officers selected at this meeting were: Will W. Winslow, president; Will Carter, vice president; James H. Evans, treasurer, and H. G. Miller, official editor. The group also chose *The Young Aspirant* as its official organ.

The 1870's must certainly have been a golden age for the young journalists, of which Punxsutawney had its share.—By Ned Winslow.

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## THEATRES

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### ALPINE THEATER

The Alpine Theater, built by F. E. Hewitt, was opened Monday, December 9, 1919. A few months after its completion, it was purchased by McCartney and Johnson. In 1929, the building was bought by James Crivella. During the 1936 flood there were three feet of water in the theater. The building at the present, 1949, is owned by Harry Batastini and is operated by Warner Brothers' Corporation, under the management of Joseph Fusco.

### JEFFERSON THEATRE

The Jefferson Theatre, a model of its time, was the successor to the old "Opera House," which stood where the Mary A. Wilson school building now stands on East Mahoning Street in a building occupied by the McQuown Auto Company until its destruction by fire in 1945. A host of stars of the "gay nineties" appeared there.

In 1906 a stock company was formed and the Jefferson Theatre was built at its present location on North Findley Street, and opened in the fall of that year with "The Princess Chic." There many of the most illustrious of the stage have appeared. Before the advent of the silent movies "the play" was "the thing," but the players of the day are perhaps better remembered than the plays. There were Mary Manering, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Pauline Lord, Charlotte Greenwood, our own Florence Fisher (now Pittsburgh Press columnist) in "The Magic Melody," and again with Walker Whiteside in "The Typhoon"; Joseph Jefferson, Jr., for whose father the theatre was named; Margaret Anglin, Blanche Bates in the unfor-



gettable "Girl of the Golden West"; Lou Tellegen, Thurston, the great magician; the members of the Quillan family, now active in the movies; Ray Bolger, currently the brightest comedy dancing star of Broadway, and a host of others whose names illumine the pages of the stage's history. Then came the silent movies with Pearl White, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, et al as the stars. Here there was an era of vaudeville, orchestras and organ music, with Bernie Armstrong of KDKA fame at the console. Al Jolson and his first talkie swept that away and since the Jefferson, with the occasional injection of a "stage show," has confined itself to the talking version of the movies.

The theatre has been successively owned by the stock company which constructed it, Joseph Wuest and his son James, W. Penn McCartney and Peter Johnson, and now Warner Brothers. It has been remodelled and refurbished many times, and existing (1949) plans call for a further and complete overhauling.

The theatre's managers have included James McGinness, James Wuest, Albert Mitchell, Patrick L. Guthrie, J. Dorsey Neal, John Way, W. Penn McCartney, Mrs. W. Penn McCartney, and Eldon O'Neil, the present manager.

## THE STARLITE THEATRE

The first out-of-doors motion picture theatre to operate in this area was the Starlite which opened on May 12, 1949, on the Punx'y-Brookville highway two miles north of this city. Built at a cost of \$80,000, the theatre accommodates 450 cars. The site is ideal for the purpose to which it is devoted and has been enjoying exceptional patronage.

Bert Fetterman, Charles Stewart, Ralph Neal and John Grube are the owners of the theatre and Mr. Fetterman is the manager. Fifteen are employed. The theatre operates eight months of the year.

## UTILITIES

*Compiled by JOANNE HARDICK*

### LIGHTING AND POWER

The following companies which have supplied light and power to the citizens of Punxsutawney are listed in the order in which ordinances giving them permission to operate in Punxsutawney and vicinity were passed by the Borough Council. These companies are:

Punxsutawney Light and Power Company, November 18, 1889.

Jefferson Electric Light, Heat, and Power Co., September 12, 1892.

Jefferson Electric Company, December 2, 1912.

Pennsylvania Electric Company, February 10, 1936.

### TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH

The following companies were authorized by the Borough Council to set up poles and supply telephone or telegraph service to Punxsutawney and vicinity.

Summerville Telephone Company, October 18, 1897.

Farmers' Telephone, April 21, 1902.

American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Pennsylvania, May 4, 1903.

Bell Telephone Company, May 7, 1928.

### T. W. PHILLIPS GAS & OIL CO.

The T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil Co. supplies natural gas to the residents of Punxsutawney and vicinity. This firm employs eleven men in the Punxsutawney branch.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY WATER COMPANY

In the year 1886 there was a large fire in Punxsutawney, which destroyed a hotel and several stores in the central part of town. There was no way of fighting the fire except with a bucket brigade and a small chemical engine. As there was a great loss of property, the people of Punxsutawney began to realize the necessity of having a water system.

On February 2, 1887, the interested citizens met to discuss water works, and elected the following officers: president, J. B. Bair; secretary, H. G. Miller; committee to determine the costs, H. F. Fishman, E. N. Wehrle, A. J. Truitt; the committee to solicit stock, John Grier, John Weber, John Lanzendorfer.

The stockholders met February 9, 1887, to hear reports of the committee and moved that the organization be called the Punxsutawney Water Company, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The committee to procure a charter was as follows: R. C. Winslow, C. M. Brewer, A. J. Truitt. The board of directors consisted of H. F. Fishman, J. A. Weber, J. C. Grier, W. F. Arms, G. W. Downes, Joseph Shields, John Lanzendorfer.

The Board elected H. F. Fishman president, and John Weber as secretary. On the 23rd of February, 1887, the stockholders met and decided to collect ten percent of the capital stock subscribed and secure a charter for \$15,000. J. B. Bair was elected treasurer. Walter Arms, an engineer, was appointed to see whether water could be obtained from Ugly Run. By the twenty-third of March, ten percent of the capital stock had been raised, and the charter was granted from the State Department early in May. On the twenty-fifth of May, 1887, it was proposed to obtain the water from the Mahoning Creek. "An artesian well was drilled along the creek about the Punxsutawney Foundry and Machine Company and the water was pumped up on Hospital Hill into a large wooden tank, where the water was filtered by a gravity system and pumped into town."\* This system answered the purpose at the time, as the heart of the town included only the section from the East End Bridge to Gilpin Street, taking in Pine, Union, Liberty and Penn Streets.

In an article appearing in the same issue of the paper as the proposal, the editor said, "We are sorry the Water Company has decided to get its supply from the creek instead of one of the numerous brooks in the vicinity." He then suggested a dam above John Graffius farm. He ended by saying, "We believe it would be better for the company to dam the wa-

\*E. S. Swartz.



ter now than to wait and allow the consumers to do it."

As the work was started, six wells were drilled along the Mahoning Creek, 1,000 feet east of Front Street, and a storage tank was built on the property on the hill at the north end of Penn Street. Water was taken from this source until sulphur from the mines made it unfit for use. Hydrants were installed along the streets in case of fires.

As this work was in progress the following notice appeared in the August 23, 1887, issue of *The Spirit*: "Water plugs are being placed along our streets for use in case of fire. These plugs will make fine hitching posts, but anyone using them for this purpose will pay \$17 and costs."

The "water works" was completed on August 14, 1887. The first water rates established September 28, 1887, were as follows:

City plugs—\$15 and \$25 per year.

Hotels—City, National and Washington, \$6 per month; Bennis, \$4.

Livery staples—25c per horse per month.

Saloons—\$2 per month.

Barber shops—\$1 per month and 50c additional for each bath tub.

Business houses and offices—50c per month.

Dwelling houses—Each family 75c per month, and bath tubs and water closets each 50c per month additional.

Bathing establishments—50c per month.

Boarding houses—\$1 per month.

Steam mills—\$2.50 per month.\*

After the company had operated ten years, during which time they used all cash for extending and improving the line until they had over \$30,000, they increased their capital stock to \$60,000. At this time, 1897, John L. Wentz, from Scranton, surveyed the watershed around Punxsutawney, and bought \$31,000 of the stock, thus gaining control of the company. He also, with a few others, incorporated the Lindsey Water Company, to supply the Borough of Clayville with water. From the time Mr. Wentz installed the Lindsey Company until 1898, the water was deficient both in quantity and quality. Between 1898 and 1900 a reservoir was built on Clover Run, a stream 12 miles northeast of Punxsutawney, and a pipe line was installed to town. Water thus supplied was much better but was affected by heavy rains and at times was quite turbid.

In 1909, a filtration plant, constructed by the company, improved the quality of the water. This plant is located approximately 1½ miles southeast of Big Run Borough along the pipe line between Clover Run and Punxsutawney. At this point a well was drilled and an intake was placed in East Branch Creek, providing a secondary source of supply.

A. Grant Richwine secured control of the Punxsutawney Water Company in 1912 by purchasing a majority of the stock. Mr. Richwine, W. Dale Shaffer, and H. H. Mercer were then elected as directors of the concern.

On November 20, 1912, a resolution was made at a meeting of the directors of the Punxsutawney Wa-

ter Company wherein the said water company guaranteed payment of about \$300,000 of the value of the bonds of the Lindsey Water Company and about \$250,000 of the value of the Big Run Water Company.

In 1912, all contractual relations between the former Borough of Clayville and the Lindsey Water Company were broken.

In the meantime, the borough authorities of Punxsutawney, who had been considering the necessity of a municipal water works for the borough, passed an ordinance providing for the construction and establishment of a municipal water works by the Borough of Punxsutawney. Prior and subsequent to the passage of this ordinance, the Borough of Punxsutawney had purchased considerable stock and rights from the Citizens' Water Company, a co-partnership established about 1904 for the purpose of supplying water to the Borough of Punxsutawney. It was induced to enter into competition with Punxsutawney and Lindsey Water Companies because of conditions resulting from poor and inadequate service. These companies purchased a large amount of land upon which they sank a number of wells. This territory and the wells thereon were transferred to the Borough of Punxsutawney so that the water might be used as a reserve supply.

About 1916 the company suffered financial difficulties and finally a receivership was formed which operated the company until 1920 when the property was purchased by Philip H. Farley, of New York City, and others who formed the Consolidated Water Company of Punxsutawney. In 1926 the company was acquired by the Federal Water Service Company of New York who changed the name of the local company to Punxsutawney Water Service Company.

In 1921 a two million gallon storage reservoir was constructed in West End to supplement supply. In 1930 a second well was drilled at the Filtration Plant to provide an adequate supply of water during drought years.

The Federal Water Service Company operated the company until 1943 when it was sold to the Northeastern Water Co., the present owner.

From 1909 to 1945 steam power was used to pump water into town. In 1945 electric motors were installed as primary power and the steam equipment retained as stand-by equipment.

The Punxsutawney Water Service Company now has an adequate potable water supply from Clover Run and East Branch streams with a secondary supply from wells to provide for drought periods. However, the future is somewhat uncertain because of threatened pollution of the surface sources by strip mining. The management is alert to this danger and is doing everything legally possible to protect its water supply.

The Water Company at present, 1949, located at 224-226 West Mahoning Street, is one of many owned by the Northeastern Water Company of Camden, New Jersey. The filter plant is located in Big Run, and the reservoir at the top of South Main Street in West End. The company is under the management of Mr. Lloyd Payne. Anna Lou Mumbray is the cashier; Jean Evans is the assistant cashier.

\*1887 data from *Spirit* files for that year.





PUNXSUTAWNEY IN 1949—From a map prepared by Walter Zimmerman, Borough Engineer.



## CHAPTER V

# SOCIAL PROGRESS

### RELIGIOUS BODIES

#### CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

About 1889, steps were taken to organize the Episcopalians for Punxsutawney, though at that time Mrs. R. S. Van Rennselaer, Mrs. A. C. Powell and Mrs. Beddow were the only members. When Dr. T. R. Williams and wife came soon after, and a number of communicants of the Church of England took up their residence in Adrian Mines, there seemed to be a sufficient nucleus of a parish to justify calling upon



Christ Episcopal Church

Bishop Whitehead of the Diocese of Pittsburgh for aid and counsel, which he gladly provided. The first service by the Bishop was held in the latter part of 1889, and at various times he visited the small congregation which met in private homes, in Shields' Hall, Odd Fellows' Hall, the Knights of Pythias Hall, or elsewhere.

Rev. Mr. White officiated regularly for a time, and the Rev. Myles Standish Hemenway gave frequent services, dividing his time between this place and DuBois, as did the Rev. Percy L. Donaghay. In September, 1905, the Rev. Willet N. Hawkins came as rector in charge of Christ Church exclusively, remaining until the end of 1906. Between 1905 and 1906 a frame building was erected on the south side of East Mahoning Street, almost opposite to the present location at the northwest corner of Lane Avenue and East Mahoning Street. Since that date regular services have been held. In 1909 the church building was moved across the street to its present location which is given above. The cobble stone exterior was placed on the building at this time.

The rectors who have served the parish since 1906: Rev. George F. Potter, 1906-08; Rev. T. H. Gilbert, 1908-09; Rev. Roger Charnock, 1909-10; Rev. John M. Rich, 1910-12; Rev. Earl H. Perry, 1912-14; Rev. A. C. Jones, 1915-23; Rev. Claude Kitchin, 1923-25; Rev. Arthur L. Gaylord, 1925-28; Rev. Paul O. Keicher, 1928-29; Rev. W. M. Tilton, 1929-34; Rev. G. C. Fohner, 1934-45; and Rev. S. M. Black, 1945-48. Addison K. Groff was assigned to the church during June of 1949. The Rev. William Fargo Bayle, rector of the Church of Our Savior in DuBois, is the Priest

in charge. Christ Church is now in the Diocese of Erie, whose head is the Rt. Rev. Harold E. Sawyer, D. D., S. T. D., Bishop of Erie.

The parish house, which was built while the Rev. Arthur L. Gaylord was rector, was formally opened February 2, 1928. It has a large assembly room, kitchen, cloak and rest rooms. It is used by the Church School and for all parish meetings and social affairs. Extensive improvements have recently been made on the church property, which includes besides the church and parish house, a rectory on Lane Avenue. All buildings have been repaired and painted, and a gas furnace installed in the church.

One of the first model Bible Schools was held in Christ Church in August, 1948, and proved most successful. This work was done under the direction of Miss Margaretha A. Stach, consultant in Christian Education for the Diocese of Erie. Miss Stach had the able assistance of the Rev. William Fargo Bayle and Addison Groff. A similar project was held during July of this year.

Vane H. Lowmaster is superintendent of the Sunday School; Mrs. Walter Mackel is the church organist.

St. Agnes Guild comprises women of the church who labor for its welfare. The officers are: President, Mrs. William T. Brown; vice president, Mrs. Charles Rawson; secretary, Mrs. Frank Garnow; treasurer, Mrs. Russell H. Murray.

The executive committee is composed of five members elected at the annual parish meeting. The present members of the executive committee are: Senior warden, T. I. Gaffney; junior warden, B. J. Woodward; secretary, Mrs. William T. Brown; treasurer, Mrs. Russell H. Murray; missionary treasurer, Miss Margaret C. Boles.

#### THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH

The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Punxsutawney was founded by Reverend McTavish, who in 1925 held tent meetings. Later, the members gathered in various homes; and then they rented the



Christian and Missionary Alliance Church



Salvation Army Hall for services. The congregation decided to build a church of their own which was begun in 1929, completed in 1948, and which is located on ypress Street. Reverend Reed L. Rogers is now pastor of the church.

Missionaries are sent out from the church every year to fields in India, French West Africa, Philippine Islands, Congo, Siam, and Peru. The mission fields are supported by pledges, given by members of the church. The missionaries do not have a regular income, but receive only what the members are able to give.

### THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

The First United Brethren Church of Punxsutawney was organized in 1893 by the Reverend G. W. Emenhizer, who was then pastor of the Knoxdale Charge. The local church was in appointment of the Knoxdale Charge until 1896, when it was made a mission station with L. B. Fosdick as pastor.



Evangelical United Brethren Church

In 1893 a lot was purchased on Woodland Avenue, and here the building was erected the same year. The cornerstone was laid in June and the church was dedicated on October 22, 1893. The original cost of the building was \$2,700, but it has been enlarged and improved so that its present valuation is \$35,000, while the parsonage is valued at \$6,000.

The church's first parsonage, located on Greenwood Avenue, was purchased in 1906. This home, however, was sold in 1940, and the property adjoining the church was secured.

From 1905 until 1915, the United Brethren Church of Albion was associated with the local United Brethren Church. In 1915 the Punxsutawney Church became a station, and by 1918 it was self-sustaining. In 1946 the United Brethren denomination merged with the Evangelical denomination; thus the church is now known as the Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1896 the charter members numbered twenty-three; the membership has now (1949) grown to 469.

The church sponsors many organizations which include a Ladies' Aid, W.S.W.S., Boy Scout Troop No. 48, Youth Fellowship, Brotherhood, Young People's Choir, and an Adult Choir. The present trustees of the church are W. B. Haines, J. O. Raybuck, J. H. Depp, D. R. Thomas, T. I. Barnette, W. C. Wolfe, and R. W. Gall; Sunday School superintendent, Martha Lloyd; church treasurer, Mariam Thompson; director of religious education, A. H. Sherck; adult director, Alden Plyler; young people's director, Frank Clark; and children's director, Mrs. A. H. Sherck.

Plans are now being made for enlarging and remodeling the church and the parsonage at an estimated cost of sixty thousand dollars. Of this amount \$18,000 has been raised.

The pastors of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in order of their service have been the Reverends G. W. Emenhizer, T. W. Perks, C. R. McCullough, L. B. Fosdick, U. B. Brubaker, E. B. Traux, Allen Rhen, Russell Showers, E. E. Bundy, W. S. Wilson, N. W. Burtner, L. Rexrode, Mark Phinney, J. S. Hayes, L. C. Rose, D. W. Willard, W. L. Murray, E. A. Sharp, W. G. Fulton, W. M. Sparks, and John Stoner. The present (1949) pastor is the Reverend H. G. Reese.

### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church of Punxsutawney was organized on October 30, 1840. Several persons who professed conversion during meetings conducted by the Reverends Thomas E. Thomas and Benoni Allen. The first twelve members of the church were Isaac London, Hiram London, Lemuel Carey, Hannah Carey, James Armstrong, Mary Armstrong, John R. Reese, Margaret Reese, Esther McMillen, Eliza Cochran, Sara Gilhousen, and Elizabeth McCracken. At the request of the people Thomas E. Thomas and Benoni Allen remained until April, 1841. It was also in this year that the church was admitted into the Clarion Baptist Association. The first regular pastor, Thomas Wilson, came in 1842, and stayed until 1846. It is of interest that such a fine person as the school teacher, Miss Mary A. Wilson, a daughter of Thomas Wilson, joined the church in 1855, and was very active in church work until her death in 1908.

Because the worshipers had no church, they met in an old school building, which was located on the public square. During the pastorate of J. J. Shorthill, 1857-68, William Campbell gave to the church a lot on the northwest corner of Farmers' Alley and Jefferson Street, now the site of the Altman Garage. The edifice was first used in 1860. Five other men gave one hundred dollars each, and other members donated lumber and building materials. When the church was completed, there was enough money left for the purchase of the bell, which is still in the belfry of the present building.

The minutes of the early meetings of the Baptist Church furnish interesting information about the customs of the church in those days. Men and women were often excluded from membership because of disorderly conduct. For instance, one woman was charged with "swaeing (swearing) and disorderly conduct" and found guilty. Another woman was formally dismissed for "having been walking disorderly, and in disregard and contempt of the church," and another, for reasons "in relation to her Christian





First Baptist Church

walk." Letters of dismissal were granted for "absenting from Church without a letter," for opposition to the Church Covenant (Covenant), and for "denying the faith, and uniting with another church."

Under the leadership of the Reverend P. J. McLean, 1900-02, a fund was started for the building of a new church. In 1904 the Reverend Charles Fitz-Williams guided the members to the decision to move the site from Jefferson Street and aided in the trading of lots with Henry Rudolph which gave the church its present location facing Barclay Square on East Union Street between Jefferson and Penn Streets. The old building was occupied for the last time on the first Sunday in May of 1904. Subsequently, services were held in the old opera house on the south side of East Mahoning Street east of the bridge, where the Ford sales room and garage were formerly located. Perhaps the atmosphere was too worldly for the group—at any rate they moved from there into the Odd Fellows' Hall on West Mahoning Street. The new building was completed for dedication in October, 1905. The structure cost \$23,000 and only \$3,600 of this was left unpaid at the close of Mr. Fitz-Williams' pastorate. By 1915 the Ladies' Aid had contributed a total of \$3,300 to the fund. The \$3,000 organ was a joint gift of Andrew Carnegie and of the Ladies' Aid.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Henry Madtes, 1907-17, the weekly envelope system was adopted.

Mr. Madtes aided greatly in paying off the indebtedness and in raising an additional \$1,200 for the finishing and fitting of the basement, by bringing high grade entertainment to the community similar to that presented by the Chautauqua Circuits. The lot next to the church was purchased May 17, 1916, by the Ladies' Aid, an old building was razed, and a beautiful lawn begun.

During the same period, in March of 1922, the Welsh Baptist Tabernacle became a part of the First Baptist Church. Their building at the head of Perry Street later became the property of the First Church of God.

The Sunday School apparently began its significant ministry of teaching about 1860. In 1876 it had an average attendance of eighty pupils and during the following year with William Davis as the superintendent, it increased to ninety-three. The present enrollment is about two hundred and fifty.

The church is of yellow brick with beautiful stained-glass windows. On the main floor inside the church there are the vestibule, auditorium, balcony, and Sunday School rooms. In the basement are the dining room, kitchen, rest rooms, furnace room, and two recreation rooms. The basement has lately been redecorated.

The first parsonage owned by the church was located on Rockland Avenue. It was bought in 1919 and sold in 1948 when the new parsonage on East



Union Street was completed. The construction of the seven room Cape Cod style house was begun in June, 1947, on the lot (next to the church) which had been purchased in 1916. The cost of construction was covered by a \$10,000 bequest from Sarah McGregor, and the money received from the sale of the old parsonage.

The ministers of the church are as follows: 1840-41, Thomas E. Thomas and Benoni Allen; 1842-46, Thomas Wilson; 1847-53, Samuel Miles; 1857-68, J. J. Shorthill; 1871-82, T. C. Gessford; 1873-76, Harold Jeffries; 1876-79, C. W. C. Hervey; 1884-85, S. L. Parcell; 1887-88, H. H. Leamy; 1889-93, W. W. Connor; 1894-98, J. H. Palmer; 1898-1900, George Muller; 1900-02, P. J. McLean; 1903-07, Charles Fitz-Williams; 1907-17, Henry Madtes; 1917-18, H. K. Bower; 1919-23, Samuel S. Clark; 1924-27, Ernest Poole; 1927-29, Ralph Safford; 1930-38, Leroy Halbert; 1939-42, Maurice E. Levy; 1943, Harvey W. Funk.

#### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

The movement that has culminated in the erection of one of the city's finest church structures, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, at the corner of South Findley and Union Streets in Punxsutawney, had its inception here in 1893, some fourteen years after the birth of the Mother Church in Boston. It was not until February 22, 1906, however, that a church organization was actually established and formal meetings of the members were held.

The movement here was fostered in the main by Mrs. Mary E. Hardy, who became the First Reader, and Lex N. Mitchell, an attorney of the city, who was chosen Second Reader. Originally services were held in the homes of the twenty-five charter members, and the first public service was on April 18, 1906, in the Knights of Pythias building on West Mahoning Street. In April, 1908, larger quarters were secured in the Eberhart Building, now the Murphy Building at the corner of West Mahoning and Findley Streets. Still later services were held in the Fackiner Building on South Findley Street, and in 1919 the church organization acquired the property of J. L. Kurtz on the southeast corner of South Findley and Union Streets, and the two story frame building was remodeled for church purposes. Services were held there until the spring of 1948 when the building was moved and ground was broken for the present church.

A board of trustees headed by Albert Gutberlet, with Mrs. Clyde Pifer and Frank O. Snyder as the other members, is in charge of church property and has been largely responsible for the new church edifice. The church is soon to be used for services, but, in keeping with the dictum of the Mother Church, it will not be dedicated until it is entirely free of debt.

Mrs. J. Paul Bloom, of Punxsutawney, is the First Reader and William R. McLain, of Big Run, the Second Reader (1949).



First Church of Christ, Scientist

The charter members, all of whom are now deceased, were: William B. Adams, John Q. Adams, Mrs. Mary E. Adams, Lex N. Mitchell, Mrs. Blanche S. Mitchell, Mrs. Mary E. Hardy, Samuel C. Williams, Mrs. Margaret M. Williams, Miss Josephine Sindorf, Mrs. Elizabeth Hullihen, Mrs. Jane E. Miller, Mrs. Cecilia E. Wright, Jacob B. Sickles, Charles A. Farrell, Mrs. Zelda A. Farrell, Mrs. Lottie M. Riden, Mrs. Maude E. Gessler, Charles H. Tiger, George Startzell, Mrs. Lillie I. Tiger, Mrs. Charlotte Startzell, James M. Startzell, Mrs. Sarah Startzell, Mrs. Lillie M. Bowers, Miss Alice Niel Grove.

#### THE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

The Church of God was founded in Punxsutawney in 1913 by Edward Hepburn and David Bell, and one or two others. Because of the lack of a meeting place, for three years the services were held at the homes of these two men. As more people joined the congregation, a room in the Kurtz Building was rented where meetings were held for two years. The services were conducted in various homes. Sometime later the group met regularly in the home of Mrs. Mary Mackel, who resided on Pine Street. As the congregation grew, larger quarters had to be found to care for the steady increase of members. The church building, known as the Welsh Baptist Church, located on the corner of North Main and Perry



First Church of God



Streets, was purchased; and regular services were begun in December, 1922. In 1937, the church building was moved back and turned around so as to clear the way for the new bridge that was being erected. During this time it was greatly altered as well as enlarged.

Many ministers and gospel workers contributed to the growth of the church. Among them were C. H. Wilson, H. A. Phillips, Kirk Patrick, Clifton Lord, H. C. Swecker and B. W. Barcus, and present ministers, the Reverend and Mrs. Hepburn. H. A. Phillips conducted a traveling library free of charge. Today the church is unable to handle the large attendance at each service, and plans are under way to enlarge the sanctuary and to increase the number of Sunday School rooms.

For the past three years the Sunday morning service has been broadcast over DuBois radio station at five minutes past eleven o'clock.

Over a period of years the Church of God attendance has increased so much that today the average attendance of the Sunday School is well over two hundred. The church has organized a basketball team to participate in the Y.M.C.A. church league. The purpose of this league is to promote attendance of boys from twelve to fifteen years of age. If this plan works for the boys, the church is planning a similar team for the girls. Boy Scout Troop 45 is sponsored by this church.

The weekly prayer meetings on Wednesday nights have an average attendance of eighty people. The Men's Prayer Group meets on Saturday evenings in the basement of the church, to pray for the sick. This program shows the great progress made by the Church of God in thirty-six years.

### THE FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Between the years of 1880 and 1885, Punxsutawney grew rapidly. Among those who settled here were many sturdy, thrifty Lutherans. Having been reared in the faith of the church of the Reformation, they were anxious to organize a Lutheran Church here and build a house of worship.

Early in 1888 the Reverend C. L. Streamer, of Smicksburg, and the Reverend W. E. Crebs, of Whitesville, held services here occasionally so that the people might be prepared for a permanent organization. The Reverend I. Irvine, missionary president of the Pittsburgh Synod of the General Synod, was informed of the possibilities for building a Lutheran Church in Punxsutawney. In July, 1888, he visited the town and made a survey of the territory. Thirty-one persons were signed on July 15 of that year as charter members. Later they were joined by twelve others to complete the charter membership roll. These members were: Oliver Crissman, Mary Crissman, J. C. Boucher, R. L. Boucher, Millie Boucher, James Boucher, William Boucher, J. Luther Lowe, Josie W. Lowe, A. T. Erhard, Dora Erhard, A. C. Robinson, D. D. Good, Nanna Good, Harry L. Robinson, Mine Robinson, Aggie M. Condrion, James M. Condrion, W. H. Quigley, Anna A. Weiss, Martha Kensinger, W. E. Robinson, David Snyder, Della M. Snyder, W. A. H. Streamer, Annie Goheen, Vol Kerr, D. A. Lowe, Ida Lowe, Wm. C. Nanz, Albert Franz, Dr. J. A. Walter, Ellen Greaves, Catherine Beyer, Sarah Dilts, S. T. Robinson, W. W. Boucher,



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

J. Wagner, Clarissa Wagner, Mary Gates, L. S. Kensing, Rebecca J. Robinson.

The church officers were installed by the Reverend I. Irvine on December 16, 1888. The new congregation formally adopted its constitution on December 30, 1888, with the Rev. C. L. Streamer presiding.

Various pastors of the Lutheran denomination supplied the congregation with preaching and pastoral care during the early months of 1889. The first regular pastor of the church was the Reverend B. E. Shaner, who began his pastoral duties on June 16, 1889. His salary was \$600, of which \$400 was paid by the congregation and \$200 by the Board of Home Missions of the General Synod. The Reverend J. G. Goetman, D. D., pastor of the old Trinity Lutheran Church of Allegheny (now North Side, Pittsburgh), presented the new church with a beautiful four-piece Communion set. This presentation was made on December 4, 1889.

During the next four months the congregation accomplished much. On August 10, 1890, the Church Council was instructed to buy the property at the corner of Gilpin and Pine Streets on the best terms possible. This land, which was then occupied by two houses and a bakery, was purchased for \$3200. One house was so dilapidated that it was soon torn down; and the other, standing on the corner, was used for a parish house and for services. In the spring of 1893 a part of the lot was sold for \$1550, and the erection of the church was at once begun. The corner stone was laid at 2:30 P. M. on June 1, 1893. The Reverend J. W. Schwartz, D. D., of Worthington, preached the sermon, after which the corner stone was laid by Pastor Shaner. Those assisting in the services were the Reverend J. C. McDonald, of the Methodist Church, and the Reverend T. M. Hartman, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The architect for the new building was H. E. Parks, of Punxsutawney; and the contractors, Hauck and Harl, also of Punxsutawney. On Sunday, Feb-



ruary 25, 1894, the church was formally dedicated. The building cost approximately \$8,000. Shortly after the service, John Lanzendorfer presented the church with two beautiful silver offering plates.

The first three pastors were: B. E. Shaner, 1889-1891; P. Ewald, 1891-1894; and Samuel Edward Smith, 1894-1898. Under Mr. Smith's pastorate the Mt. Zion Congregation (Grube Settlement) was united with the First Church to constitute the Punxsutawney pastorate of the Lutheran Church. Following Pastor Smith was J. R. Sample, 1899-1903, whose pastorate ended with his untimely death. Next were Richard Warren Mottern, 1903-1904; Samuel T. Himes, 1904-1909; Webster Clinton Spade, 1910-1915, and J. Melancthon Weber, 1915-1920. During the pastorate of Mr. Weber, the organ was purchased, installed and finally dedicated on July 16, 1922. On December 27, 1925, the church was damaged by fire to the extent of \$1,600. The Christmas cantata had just been rendered and the congregation had gone home when the fire was discovered. Also in 1925 the parsonage was remodeled, and the church was redecorated inside and out. L. F. Wagschal followed as pastor from 1932 to 1937. During his pastorate the interior of the church was rebuilt. The altar, pulpit, lectern, and pews were installed; and individual church school rooms were added. In the flood of March, 1936, the first floor of the parsonage was covered by forty-five inches of water. Paul O. Hamsher was the pastor from 1937 to 1943. The present pastor is Elbert E. Oney, who was installed as pastor in 1944.

The First Church has given two full-time workers to the church at large. They are Miss Hazel Bartow, now Mrs. Clinton F. Hildebrand, wife of Pastor Hildebrand of Confluence, Pa., and Edward Jerome Alexis, a junior in the Gettysburg Theological Seminary.

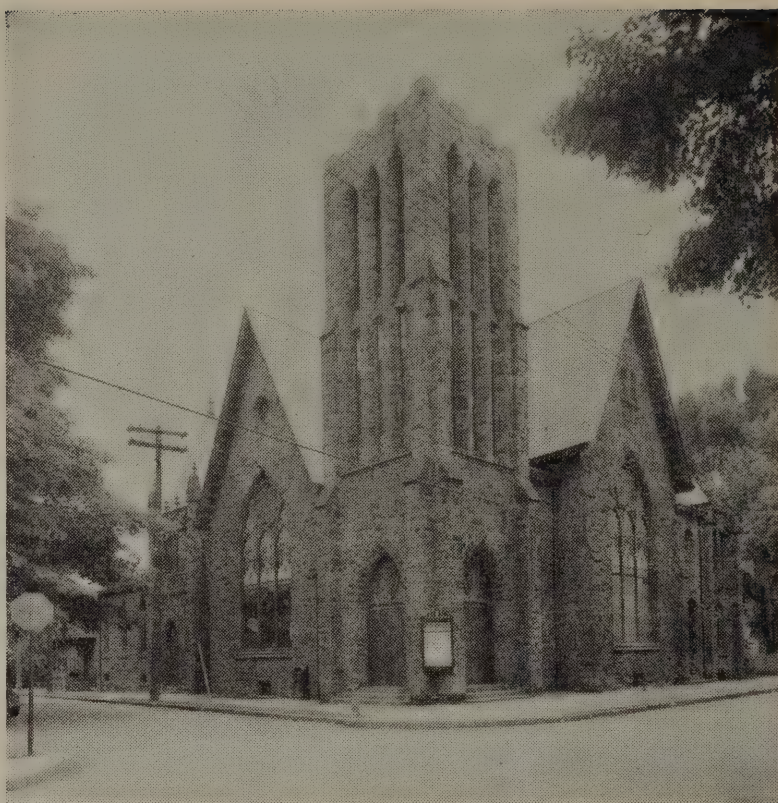
Two boys, each of whom spent five years in the First Lutheran Church parsonage, are now in the Gospel Ministry, namely: Rev. James N. Frank, pastor at Blairsville, Pa., and Rev. Francis Wagschal, pastor in Middleburgh, N. Y.

## THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

The first church organized in Punxsutawney was the Methodist Episcopal. It was founded in 1812 by the Rev. Elijah Coleman, a local preacher of the Mahoning Methodist Circuit, Baltimore Conference. There were forty-two members on the circuit. It took six weeks for the pastor to see all the members.

During the first decade of the church's existence, there was no building. It then held meetings in the homes of the brethren and in Jacob Hoover's grist-mill in Clayville.

The first Methodist Church was a frame structure built in 1823 on the site where the Salvation Army now stands. The following is an account of the early church taken from the notes of the late John Bair, uncle of Miss Emma Kelso: "The first Sunday School that I attended was in the old frame Methodist Episcopal Church, which stood where the Salvation Army Hall now is. It was a union school, and Charles C.



First Methodist Church

Gaskill was the superintendent. He was a Quaker. John R. Rees and my father, Ephraim Bair were superintendents later. My first teacher was a man by the name of Jacob Smith. He had a Daguerreotype gallery where the office of the Punxsutawney Water Company now is. R. R. Evans was my second teacher.

"The M. E. Church was seated with high back wooden seats made out of plain pine boards. The seats were not painted. The roof made the ceiling and you could see the rafters and logs that held it together. It was but one story. The side walls were plastered and it was whitewashed all through the inside. There was an aisle from the door to the pulpit through the middle of the church and the stove stood about in the middle of the aisle. There was an altar in front around the pulpit with a railing on it. The pulpit was a railed-in concern with a curtain inside of it. All that you could see of the preacher was his head, shoulders, and arms. They had some roaring old times in it when they held a protracted meeting. They preached and acted very much as the Holy Rollers and Salvation Army do now. There were two mirror reflections, one on each side of the church. They used candles for light. They had posts and brackets on which to set the candle sticks scattered through the room. Then the janitor had to go around every once in a while to snuff the candles to make them give a better light. They had brass or iron snuffers for that special purpose. Each scholar got a book to take home with him to read during the week which he was to return the next Sunday. There were two preachers on the circuit at that time and they got around so that they had preaching every two weeks. Other times the local preacher, if there was one, if not, the class leader took charge of the meetings; at such times they read



the Scripture, prayed, sang, talked and told their experiences. On Sundays they held class meetings and on Thursday evening they had prayer meetings.

"I helped to tear down the frame church and remember that struggle that they had to get the one that the Salvation Army now occupies. After they tore down the frame church, they held their meetings in a shop which stood where Senator Theodore M. Kurtz now lives, then in the old frame school house on North Jefferson Street, then in the Hunt Brick Store room on South Gilpin Street. Several years passed between the tearing down of the old church and the occupying of the new one.

"The next year they got the brick on the ground. And the next they got them in the wall when it stood without a roof for a couple of years. Then they made a great effort and got a new roof on it, and put the seats that they took out of the old church into the lecture room and used that for some time when by some means they finally got the audience room finished. Bishop Kingsley came and dedicated it. There they stayed until they sold it to the Salvation Army and built their new church on the corner of West Mahoning and Church Streets."

In 1824 the membership was eight people. They were Jacob Hoover and his wife, Joel Strout and his wife, Jesse Armstrong and his wife, Betsy Clawson, and John Corey.

About 1854 the frame church was torn down, and a brick construction was started on the same site. The new church was not completed until 1858. The church met with financial difficulties. It was twice sold for debt, the last time by Sheriff Phillip H. Shannon in 1861. It was purchased by James Mitchell and by him deeded to the struggling congregation. The parsonage was built in 1844, the lot having been given for that purpose by Mrs. James Winslow.

The present commodious and beautiful stone church, built in 1899, is on the southwest corner of Mahoning and Church Streets. It is valued at \$50,000. The contractor and builder was John Q. Adams.

After the completion of the new Methodist Church, Rev. H. G. Dodds, then pastor, determined to have a pipe organ. When the official board gave Rev. Dodds permission to buy a pipe organ for the new church, it was explicitly agreed to and clearly understood that Parson Dodds was not to ask any member of the church for a subscription to the organ fund. He was not to ask for any money, but could accept all that was voluntarily offered. So under this agreement he assumed responsibility for the payment of the pipe organ.

Rev. Dodds had heard that Andrew Carnegie had said that it was a disgrace to die rich, and that one of the ways he had for spending his money was giving away pipe organs. So, acting on this information, Rev. Dodds wrote to Mr. Carnegie, asking for a pipe organ to be donated to the Methodist Church. The letter was not answered. Then Rev. Dodds wrote another letter, then another and still another, but no answer came. Finally Rev. Dodds decided that, if the Methodists wanted a pipe organ, they would have to pay for it themselves. He received several hundred dollars from his congregation.

Then he went to Canton, Ohio, where he placed an order for a pipe organ. When he returned, he found a stranger inspecting the new church. The two got into conversation, and Rev. Dodds began

to tell the stranger how he was to raise money for the pipe organ without asking the members for it and that he had just ordered one.

"Now that's too bad," lamented the stranger, "for I suppose you would have had no objection to accepting an organ as a gift?"

The minister assured the visitor that such a gift would certainly have been appreciated beyond expression. Rev. Dodds was both surprised and pleased when he learned that the stranger was Mr. Meyer, Mr. Carnegie's pipe organ man, sent to investigate and offer to Rev. Dodds the free gift of a pipe organ. Rev. Dodds presented the pipe organ to the church when he left Punxsutawney. (From the History of the Methodist Church in Punxsutawney, by R. R. Evans.)

From 1825 to 1835, Punxsutawney was an appointment of the Pittsburgh Conference, Mahoning, Shippenville, Clarion, Brookville, and Ridgway Missions. From 1850 to 1852 it was called the Mahoning Circuit, and since 1853 it has been known as the Punxsutawney Circuit.

The following are names of the various pastors: 1822-23, Elijah Coleman; 1824, the Rev. Dorsey; 1825, Ignatius G. Thackett; 1826-27, James Babcock; 1828, Nathaniel Callendar; 1829, John Johnson and John C. Ayers; 1830-31, Job Wilson; 1832, Abner Jackson and A. C. Barnes; 1833, Abner Jackson; 1834, G. D. Kinneer; 1835, Alored Plimpton; 1836, J. A. Hallock and J. F. Hill; 1837, Stephen Heard; 1838-39, R. Peck and M. Himbaugh; 1840, G. F. Reeser and I. Mershon; 1841, G. F. Reeser and John Graham; 1842, I. Schofield and William Monks; 1843, William Monks and D. H. Jack; 1844, S. Churchill, John K. Coxson; 1845, R. M. Bear and T. Benn; 1846, I. T. C. McClelland; 1847, J. Wigglesworth and E. Hall; 1848, I. T. C. McClelland and S. Hollen; 1849, S. Hollen and J. Whippo; 1850, J. Whippo; 1851, J. R. Lyon and J. J. McArthur; 1852-53, A. F. Reeser; 1854, F. Hall and N. G. Luke; 1855, P. W. Sherwood; 1856, J. Howe; 1857, J. Shields and J. K. Shaffer; 1858, J. Shields and I. T. C. McClelland; 1859, N. G. Luke and F. Vernon; 1860, E. Marsteller and J. L. Hayes; 1861, C. M. Heard; 1862-65, A. D. Davis; 1866-68, D. Latshaw; 1869-70, McVey Troy; 1871, C. Jones; 1872, J. M. Ziele; 1873-75, M. Miller; 1876-78, Cyril Wilson; 1879-81, A. M. Lockwood; 1882-83, J. H. Keeley; 1884-85, H. V. Talbott; 1886, Levi Beers; 1887-91, H. G. Hall; 1892-93, J. C. McDonald; 1894, J. W. Blaisdell; 1895, A. J. Merchant; 1896-97, T. W. Douglas; 1898-01, H. G. Dodds; 1902-10, C. W. Miner; 1910-11, Horace McKinney; 1912-17, B. A. Ginader; 1917-22, C. A. Williams; 1922-31, J. A. Lyons; 1931-32, Waldo Weller; 1932-34, Eugene Curtis; 1934-37, Arthur Shenefelt; 1937-40, George Osmun; 1940-45, Roy R. Decker; 1945-, J. A. Cousins. (Information on the above ministers was contributed by Mrs. O. D. Weber.)

## GRACE METHODIST CHURCH

The Grace Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1891, with William Crissman as Sunday School superintendent and Rev. J. E. Brown as first pastor. In 1892 a Sunday School was organized and held its sessions in the West End Municipal Building. W. W. Crissman was superintendent at this time. In 1893 an application was made to the court for a Methodist Church charter. This applica-





Grace Methodist Church

tion was signed by W. W. Crissman, James R. Conser, G. W. Porter, Darius Blose, and J. J. Wighaman. The charter was granted, and the following were chosen as trustees: John B. Sutter, J. J. Wighaman, James R. Conser, Darius Blose, G. W. Porter, H. M. Means, D. E. Roney, and John Watkins. Lydia Gillespie, John Tweed, Morgan Pelton, H. A. Smith, S. C. Williams, and P. B. Depp took an active interest in the church. Mr. Depp was appointed class leader and served faithfully for several years. The land on which the church was erected was bought from the executors of the J. U. Gillespie estate for the sum of eight hundred dollars. Construction of the church began in 1897.

Additions and improvements have been made from time to time to meet the growing needs of the congregation. The section of the church in which the Sunday School lessons are taught was added during the pastorate of the Rev. W. O. Calhoun. The parsonage, a brick structure, was built in 1907 during the pastorate of the Rev. T. W. English. The interior of the church was redecorated during the pastorates of the Rev. H. E. Boyd and the Rev. Wayne Wolford. The present pastor is Rev. Ivan Koonce." (Information from Miss Mary Morgan, Rev. Ivan Koonce and Mrs. John Mitchell.)

### THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUE

The Jewish Synagogue, which no longer stands, was located at the corner of Indiana Street and Maple Avenue, facing the Mahoning Creek. It was



Jewish Synagogue

a small but impressive building with pictured window panes.

The Chevra (meaning congregation) Agudas Achim was organized December 27, 1896. The building's cornerstone was laid in the early part of 1902, and the structure was completed in the latter part of the same year.

Rabbi Cohn, who served as rabbi for six years, conducted the first service in the synagogue in 1902. He was followed by Rabbi Schechter, Rabbi Hoffenburg, and Rabbi Isaac Simon. The first officers of the congregation were A. L. Light, president; Isaac Lippman, vice president; J. L. Rosenthal, secretary; S. L. Gilbloom, treasurer.

In 1902, forty-five families gathered on Friday nights, Saturday mornings, and holidays in the little synagogue. By 1948, only twenty families remained to worship in the congregation.

In 1947, the Jewish Synagogue was torn down to make way for the new Indiana Street bridge, a part of the Mahoning Creek Flood Project. Mr. Goldberg was the last rabbi to conduct a service in the synagogue. Simon Krause, Julius Abelman, and A. Pete were the last officers to preside. Some of the building materials, salvaged from the old structure, were put into storage for use in rebuilding the synagogue at some future date.

### THE MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

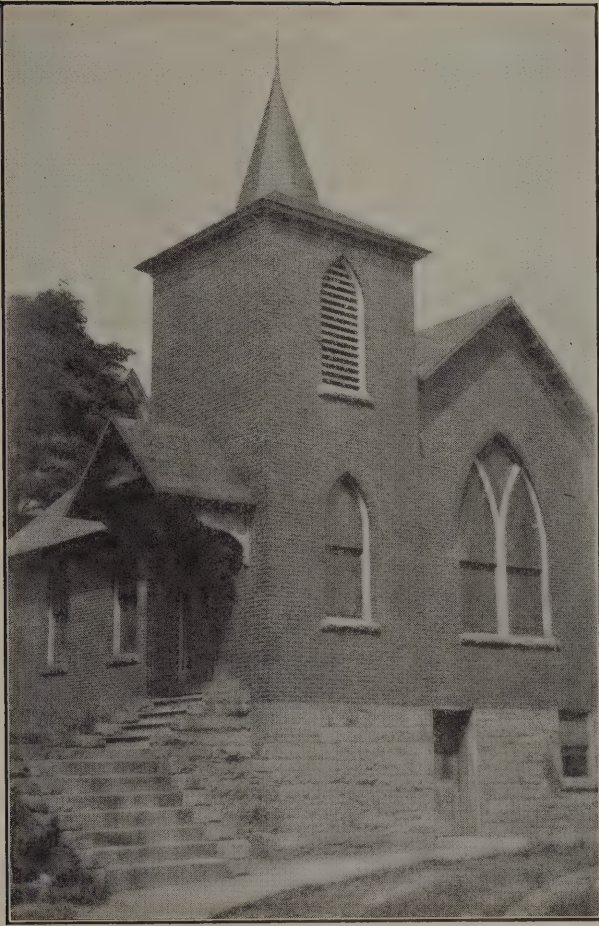
The history of the German Lutheran Church of Punxsutawney began in 1853 with the organization of the congregation by the Reverend C. C. Brandt, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the church was to perpetuate the preaching of the Word of God in the tongue of Dr. Martin Luther. Since the Reverend Brandt was unable to be present every Sunday and the congregation needed a resident pastor, a call was sent out for a pastor who could devote his whole time to this parish. The first resident pastor was the Reverend Raisig of the Ohio Synod.

A constitution having been adopted and a charter granted by the court, the first regular election of the church council was held that year. The elders selected were M. K. Zolner, J. E. Zeitler, and George Schwartz; trustees, Ph. Harrold, J. Dornmeier and Henry Ernst; deacons, G. Gaeyzoldt, F. Schnell, and G. Weiss, who also served as secretary for many years. During this meeting it was decided to purchase a plot of ground and build a church. The corner stone of the church was laid on November 10, 1853, by the pastor, assisted by the Reverends C. C. Brandt, Barnitz, and Wilken.

The following is a list of the pastors of the church and the dates of their service: The Reverend Raisig, 1853 to 1856; the Reverend Peter Engers, 1856 to 1858; the Reverend C. C. Brandt, 1858 to 1860; the Reverend J. G. Groenmiller, 1860 to 1865; the Reverend Spindler, 1865 to 1866; the Reverend Waltz, 1866 to 1868; the Reverend Bauch, 1868 to 1873; the Reverend Meisner, 1873 to 1877; the Reverend Engelder, 1877 to 1891; the Reverend G. J. Mueller, 1891 to 1905; the Reverend G. A. Mueller, 1905 to 1914; the Reverend Oermann, March 8, 1914, to the present time.

During the pastorate of the Reverend Engelder differences arose between the Synods of Missouri and





Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church

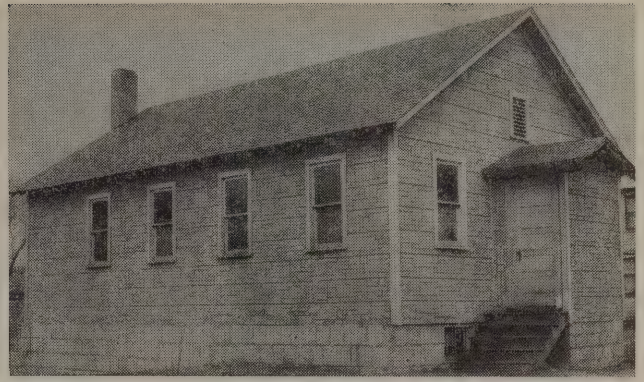
Ohio regarding the Doctrine of Predestination. The congregation was asked to decide whether it would remain with the Ohio Synod or join the Missouri. After many lengthy meetings it was decided to withdraw from the Ohio and to affiliate with a synod called The Concordia Synod, which was being organized by several Pittsburgh congregations. However, in 1886, this synod disbanded, having served its purpose, and the congregation joined the Missouri Synod, of which it has been a member to this day.

In 1909 it became necessary either to do expensive repairing to the church or to rebuild it anew. The latter course was taken. The present church is a one-story brick building with stained glass windows. The bell, which is rung before church and Sunday School, is in the corner tower. In the basement, many church suppers and social meetings are held. Recently the interior of the church has been re-decorated. All services have been conducted in the English language since 1918.

In the years of its existence the church has held the loyal support of its members and friends. With thankful hearts, the people pray for continued help from God and the members.

### PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE

The Pentecostal belief was brought to Punxsutawney by the means of a tent meeting held in the early nineteen-thirties by the Rev. Douglas. This meeting was held on East Mahoning Street in the locality of the new grade school building. After the Rev. Douglas' departure, the meetings were continued by Miss Twila Young. Later the Rev. Arthur Moore, of Knox-



Pentecostal Tabernacle

dale, Pa., held meetings for the group in a building in Elk Run. In November, 1935, the group began to hold their meetings in the German Hall on Pine Street. The Rev. Moore was succeeded by the Rev. James Phillips, who had been recommended by the Eastern District of the Assemblies of God.

In the succeeding years the people assembled in various buildings and private homes in and near Punxsutawney under the supervision of the following ministers: The Rev. Hartman, the Rev. E. A. Lowmaster, now of Anita, Pa., the Rev. Christopher, of Philipsburg, and the Rev. L. A. Rhodes, who supervised the purchase of the Pentecostal Tabernacle at the corner of Elk and Lever Streets. The Rev. L. A. Hill succeeded the Rev. L. A. Rhodes, and the Rev. Arthur Moore then served as pastor a second time. In 1947 Ludovic Barrie of Scotland came to Punxsutawney to serve as pastor. He was succeeded in 1948 by the Rev. Donald E. Berkey, of Canfield, Ohio.

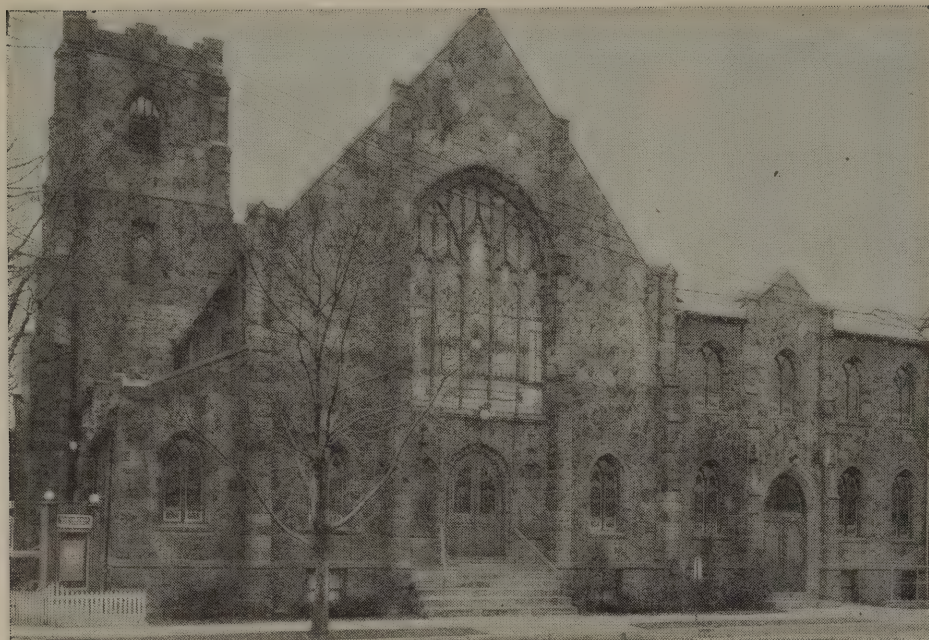
The church is evangelistic and missionary and is aiding in the support of missionaries in war-torn China and elsewhere.

### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In 1818, the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., was introduced into Punxsutawney by the Reverend David Barclay. The pioneer church edifice was built of hewn logs in 1826 and occupied the northwest corner of the Public Square. The Reverend Mr. Barclay was the first pastor. In 1836, the Rev. David Barclay having resigned, the congregation extended a call to his son, the Rev. Charles Barclay. The call was accepted on condition that the congregation would transfer its allegiance to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, to which the Rev. Charles belonged. This was done and the First Presbyterian Church ceased to exist. The first society consisting of seventeen communicants, was organized in the home of Dr. John W. Jenks, located on the site of the former City Hotel, now the Park Building on the southeast corner of Mahoning and South Penn Streets. The Reverend Charles Barclay was pastor with Dr. Jenks and Alexander Jordan as the first elders.

In 1860, under the pastorate of the Reverend Jacob F. Wall, the Cumberland congregation began the erection of a brick church on the southwest corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets. It was completed in 1868 during the pastorate of Daniel Cooper. The congregation continued to worship in the commodious edifice until 1902 when it was sold to the J. B. Eberhart Ltd. as a site for a large department store. The old brick church was torn down in June of that





Presbyterian Church

year. In the following August, the construction of the stately stone structure on the northeast corner of Union and Findley Streets was begun.

When the Cumberland Presbyterian Church changed its name to the Central Presbyterian Church and its allegiance to the Clarion Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., a situation arose in which there were two churches of the same denomination in the community. The First Presbyterian Church had been organized in January, 1862, by the Reverend Charles P. Cummins, of Brookville. The Reverend Joseph Mater, of Leatherwood, ordained in this church James Torrence and Samuel McKee. The Reverend H. K. Honnagle was appointed Stated Supply in 1862 and 1863. However, the church was declared to be dissolved on April 27, 1869.

About a decade later the Reverend J. S. Helm, pastor of the Perry Presbyterian Church, observed that many new families were moving into Punxsutawney. Seeing his opportunity, he came here and conducted services one Sabbath afternoon in the old Baptist Church on Jefferson Street. The result was the organization of another Presbyterian Church on June 25, 1884, by the Reverend Helm, the Reverend J. H. Stewart, and John P. Grier. The Reverend Helm was installed as pastor on July 10, 1885. His time was to be divided equally between the Punxsutawney and Perry Churches.

In the early eighties the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway Co. began to operate mines at Adrian and Walston. This development brought many new people to town. Many of them were Presbyterians and attended the Presbyterian Church. The trustees chosen by the new organization were Phineas W. Jenks and Dr. Joseph Shields. Before the next meeting of the Presbytery, the membership had increased to thirty-three. In September, 1885, the Session was increased to five elders, William H. Ake, and D. McKean Harl being the new members. Although the congregation was homeless, it continued to grow rapidly. After three years the membership had increased to sixty-one.

These sixty-one members determined to build a church for themselves. Punxsutawney was hardly

out of her village swaddling clothes then, and to build a church was a great undertaking. But the faith of these people did not falter. A building lot was bought at 400 East Mahoning Street, one hundred and fifty feet facing East Mahoning Street and running one hundred and fifty feet back. The lot and building meant a cost of fifteen thousand dollars, but the new church was finally dedicated on September 2, 1888. The Reverend H. P. McClelland, a professor at Western Theological Seminary, gave the sermon. On August 1, 1895, the Reverend Helm was released from the pastorate of the church. His departure was sincerely regretted for he had done well as pastor. A good and faithful minister, he was highly esteemed by all the community.

When this church was completed, the membership of the church increased from 211 to 359 and missionary and benevolent gifts from \$193 to \$671. The congregation celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on November 28, 1909. The Reverend Helm was present and took part in the exercise.

In the year 1909 the church was improved. A new system of steam heat was installed; and, the year following, the church was newly carpeted, new chandeliers were installed, and the basement was fitted for social functions. The total cost was over \$4,000.

As time went on, it became increasingly evident that a union between the Central and First Churches was needed. Several efforts were made, sometimes originating with the First Church and sometimes with the Central, toward possible union.

On November 2, 1921, the Session of the Central Church accepted an invitation from the Session of the First Church to meet with them to consider the advisability of uniting the two congregations. The meeting was held and a joint committee appointed to prepare a plan of union. The committee's report was approved by both Sessions and then referred to the congregations for action. The gist of the plan included the following items: that the date of the projected union be set for February 1, 1922, that the Central Church building be used to house the two congregations, that the official boards continue to act until after the first congregational meeting following the consummation of the union, that the name of the united church be "The Presbyterian Church of Punxsutawney," that a two-thirds vote in both congregations be required, and that the pastors of both churches—the Reverend E. Clair Good and the Reverend C. B. Wible—be retained as co-pastors at equal salaries for the period of one year after the union was to go into effect. The plan was approved by the two congregations. The Clarion Presbytery ratified the plan on December 30, 1921, and the merger accordingly became effective on the date indicated. Then followed a period of readjustment while many details of the union were carefully worked out. Before the first year had elapsed, the Reverend Wible presented



his resignation which was to take effect January 15, 1923. A short time later the Reverend E. C. Good also resigned.

In October, 1928, the Reverend Herman C. Humke, S.F.D., from the Presbytery of Sioux City, was invited to serve the church as State Supply for a period of six months. His installation took place on April 23, 1929, from which time he has continued as pastor.

Today the congregation, which numbers 625, worships in the stone church built in 1902. An educational annex added in 1924 includes a large classroom which can be made into smaller rooms by means of folding doors and sliding walls. This church has a large sanctuary and three balconies, one to the rear of the room and a smaller one on each side. Besides the two capable organists, Ned Winslow and Mrs. S. S. Hamilton, there are also two talented choir directors, Mrs. James Lester and Miss Esther Jane Davis, who work with their respective choirs on alternate Sundays.

Not long ago the Presbyterian Church established a recreation program for boys and girls. There is the Girls Scouts for the girls, which teaches them many useful arts and practices, and a Boy Scout troop for boys. For both boys and girls the church established the Westminster Fellowship.

The Presbyterian Church has tried, since 1818, to serve the community well as America's future depends on it and all its fellow churches.

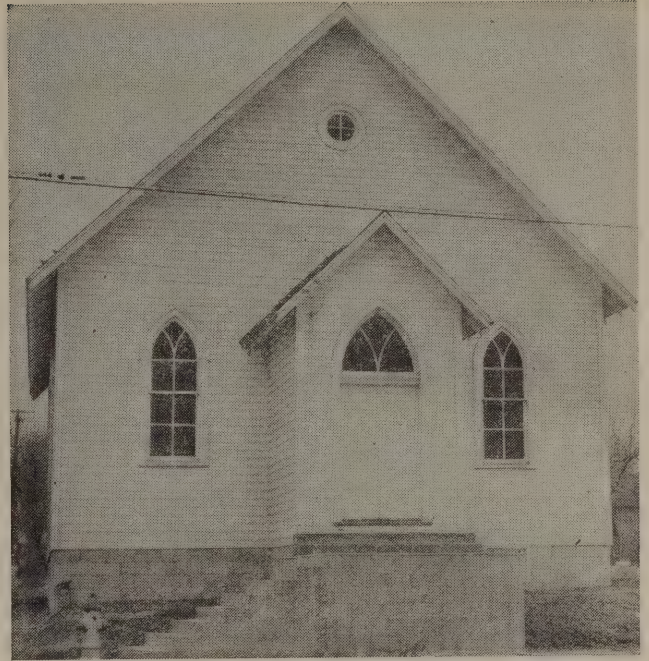
#### THE REORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

A branch of the Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints had its origin in Punxsutawney in 1917. At that time meetings were held in the home of Eunice Beam and were directed by missionaries. As a result of this missionary work, sixteen people were baptized. The increased membership made it possible to organize a branch of the original church.

On the evening of January 21, 1919, the Punxsutawney church was organized in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Farnk Greene, of Elk Run Avenue, by two Missionaries' Apostles, Gomer T. Griffith and Elder James E. Bishop, who had been sent from the main church at Independence, Missouri. The officers of the newly organized branch were as follows: President, Frank L. Greene; vice president, E. H. Brennan; secretary, Eunice Beam; treasurer, E. L. Brennan; and chorister, Joanna Anthony.

Prior to the founding of the church, both Mr. Greene and Mr. Brennan had been ordained into Aaronic Priesthood, and were thus authorized to preach and teach the members. Soon a Sunday School was formed. During a period of eleven years, the meetings had been held in various homes and halls; but, when the enrollment had increased to seventy, the homes were too small to enable the whole group to congregate at once. In 1928 a church was built on the corner of Orchard and Ridge Avenues. The first services in the new church were held on September 1, 1928.

There are now (1949) eighty members of the local church. The church continues to have a pastor and regular services. The present officers of the church are E. H. Brennan, Frank A. Reams, Twila Maze, and Edith L. Brennan. The Sunday School officers are: Superintendent, Frank A. Reams; assistant superintendent, Arnold Reams; pianist, Sarah Maze; sec-



Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

retary, Lois Reams; chorister, Twila Maze; Elder E. H. Brennan is the pastor of the church.

The gospel of the church is that the church was divinely instituted in the latter days, so that Christ's teachings could produce righteous people, that all men should worship God in "Spirit and in Truth," that all men can worship Almighty God according to the dictates of conscience, providing that such worship does not cause violation of the laws of the land, that they should endeavor to follow the admonition of St. Paul, by being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, and virtuous, and that they should also seek anything virtuous or lovely, and praiseworthy, or of good report. They believe and teach that the Bible contains the words of God, that the canon of Scripture is not full, and that God, by his spirit, will continue to reveal His will to man until the end of time. The Latter Day Saints' Church represents the "Body of Christ."

#### SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

In the year 1870 the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered up for the first time in Punxsutawney by the Rev. H. Clement Wienker, then pastor of the Brookville Catholic Church. The first Mass was offered in the home of W. E. Gillespie of West End, a convert of Catholicism. Father Wienker walked from Brookville many times to bring the consolation of their religion to the few scattered pioneer Catholics in these parts.

West End was then known as Clayville and this community together with Walston, Adrian, Horatio, Cloe and Punxsutawney proper comprised the territory that contributed to the congregation of Saints Cosmas and Damians Church.

Services were subsequently held in a small building attached to an old store across the street from the Clayville Foundry on Mahoning Street and later in a room above the store of Gillespie and Parsons.

In the spring of 1883, a more suitable abode was secured in a hall above a store building of George



W. Porter, west of the Clayville Foundry. Many times the congregation sat patiently for three or four hours after the time scheduled for Mass waiting for Father Wienker to arrive as best he might from Brookville.

On May 18, 1885, Rev. H. C. Wienker very prudently selected the present site of the church property and purchased from J. U. Gillespie the square enclosed by Mahoning, Pine and Chestnut Streets. The pioneer priest's perspicacity has endowed the present congregation with one of the choicest properties in the Diocese of Erie.

The church had in the meantime been given quite an impetus by the influx of men engaged in the construction of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad, later taken over by the Baltimore and Ohio. Until this time the local and surrounding mines had been the chief support of the people.

#### *The Former Church*

The foundation for the first church was laid during the summer and autumn of 1885 by two Scotchmen named Stotthard and Hoggan. On August 6, 1885, at six a. m., Father Wienker, himself, blessed and laid the cornerstone of the church that was destined to endure for fifty-six years.

The names Cosmas and Damian, always linked together in the Catholic liturgy, were chosen by Father Wienker, personally, because he had a very dear brother in a monastery in England who was known to his associates as Brother Cosmas.

The brick work contractor was C. C. Van Ripper, of Punxsutawney, Pa., and the carpenter work was done under the supervision of Hughes and Spencer, of Clayville. The plastering, done by John Winslow, was not completed until 1887 because the work had to progress as funds were made available. P. S. Crate installed the pews and J. J. Hoffman did the frescoing.

The completed church was of Roman style 40 x 72½ feet and 29 feet high. The spire, contrary to the present custom, was 90 feet high. The entire cost of the building was about \$4,000.

Mass was first celebrated in the new structure by Father Wienker on March 13, 1887. Some few years later an addition was completed.

These historic doors opened and closed on many happy bridal pairs, many new babies seeking admission to the portals, and the tired remains of the faithful making their final retreat. Rev. James Arthur Fleckenstein, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Fleckenstein, of Pine Street, was the only parish son to celebrate his first Holy Mass within its walls.

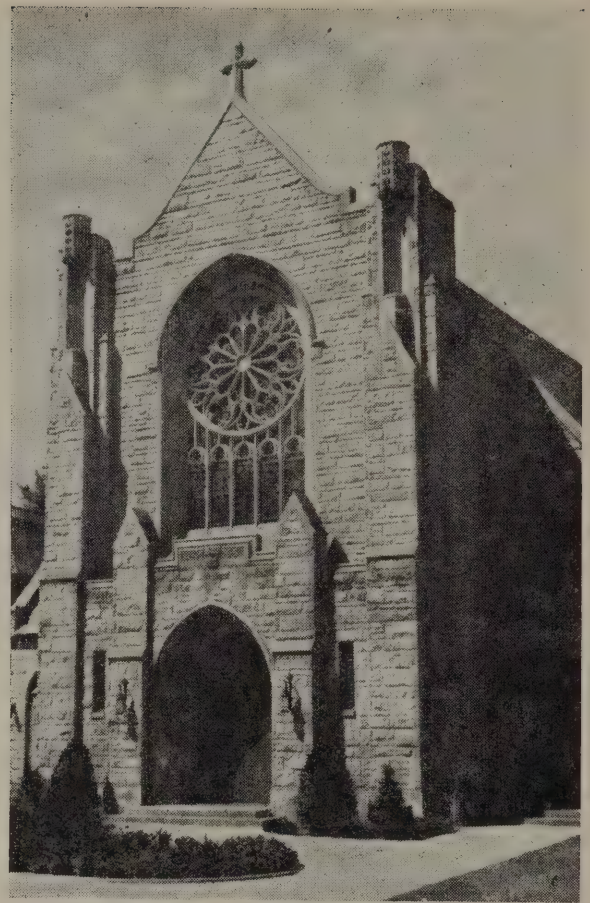
Among the pioneer families we find the names: Phillips, Ernest, Gillespie, Bergen, Ott, and from Walston: McLeavy, Guthrie, and Gribben, and of course many others.

#### *The New Church*

The cornerstone of the present imposing edifice of Saints Cosmas and Damian was blessed and laid by Bishop Gannon on August 31, 1941. Dedication of the new church took place on July 4, 1942.

Rev. Francis J. Turner, the present pastor, and the congregation of SS.C.D., may well be proud of their accomplishment in the detail and perfection they have wrought in the new church.

Officers of the dedication Mass were as follows: Celebrant, Rev. Francis J. Turner; Arch Priest, Very



Saints Cosmas and Damian Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Monsignor Jos. J. Wehrle, S.T.D., son of the late E. N. and Mrs. Wehrle, of Punxsutawney, Pa.; Deacon, Rev. Arthur J. Fleckenstein, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Fleckenstein, of Punxsutawney, Pa., and Sub-Deacon, Rev. Francis J. Tushim, son of John and the late Mrs. Tushim, of Punxsutawney, Pa. Master of Ceremonies, Very Rev. Monsignor C. R. McQuillen, S.T.D.; assistant Masters of Ceremonies, Rev. John R. Keating and Rev. Francis G. McCullough; sermon, Very Rev. Thomas Plassman, O.F.M., Ph.D., S.T.D.

The church is of simple Gothic design constructed of Brier Hill sandstone from the State of Ohio. There is a massive rose window above the front entrance and two niches for the reception of statues of Saints Cosmas and Damian. A magnificent Mosaic, framing the main altar, represents Christ as High Priest and King. The black cross is made of Holland marble and all gold is twenty-two carat. The mosaic is made up of miniature squares of glass from Venice of incomparable harmony and intricacy of design. The main altar is of marble from Nassau, Germany. The Communion rail is from Italy. All these items from abroad had been secured prior to the outbreak of the war. The mysteries of the Rosary and sundry other subjects are portrayed in the beautiful stained windows of antique and domestic art glass. Most outstanding are the twelve pillars in the church representing the twelve Apostles whose names are stencilled between the pillars. Complete to the last integral part are the sacristies, space in the Sanctuary for the boys' chancel choir, the baptistry and spacious vestibules.

Other buildings complement the church. Of these the first is the rectory, built in 1896. A construction crew, engaged in building the Punxsutawney Iron



Works, completed the rough structure of the building in two days.

Father Wienker's first house was a frame building that stood on the east or alley side of the property about fifty feet from Pine Street. When fire caused an emergency for housing the Nuns, Father Wienker found it necessary to sleep in the sacristy of the church until suitable quarters for the Sisters could be erected.

The present convent housing the Sisters of Mercy teaching the parochial school, faces Chestnut Street at the corner of Pine. It is constructed of brick, three stories, and contains living quarters for the Sisters, also music and recreation rooms. This building was completed by Monsignor John Link on his arrival in 1904.

Considerable repairs have been made during the past year and the building is now comparable to those around it.

The original brick convent built directly behind the grade school consisting of four rooms was destroyed by fire in 1897.

#### *Holy Name Society*

The Holy Name Society of the Roman Catholic Church is a society of which every practical Catholic man of the parish is automatically a member. Their aims and purposes are respect for the Holy Name of Jesus Christ and the suppression of improper habits such as the use of profanity. The present officers are: Leo Sullivan, president; Leo Johnson, treasurer; and Joseph Salvaggio, secretary.

#### *St. Vincent De Paul Society*

The St. Vincent De Paul Society is an active Roman Catholic society. The sole purpose of the society is the exemplification of the virtue of charity toward each other and toward their fellow men.

#### *Pastors and Assistant Pastors of Saints Cosmas and Damian Church*

The pioneer pastor, Rev. H. Clement Wienker, having been relieved of his pastorate at Brookville, Pa., took over charge of the congregation at Punxsutawney in 1887. Father Wienker was born in Westphalia, Germany, in 1846, and came to Pennsylvania in 1869. Father Wienker was a large man, peculiarly adapted to the rigors of the life he had chosen. One of Father Wienker's hobbies was languages and he finally mastered five tongues adeptly and had a smattering of two more.

Self denial and mortification, added to natural piety, transformed a plain man into practically a saint. He labored unceasingly and unselfishly. His happiest days were his busiest ones. He loved all small children, and schools that kept them close to him were his hobby.

Father Wienker, later raised to the dignity of Monsignor, started the paper called *The Christian Home and School*, printed at *The Spirit* plant at Punxsutawney. This paper is now dignified with the name of *The Lake Shore Visitor-Register* and is the Diocesan vehicle in this locality.

Monsignor Wienker opened the boys' home at Gannondale and served as Diocesan Examiner of Schools. He made his home in later years, and served as chaplain for, the Mercy Hospital in DuBois, Pa.

His saintly career ended on April 27, 1926, and his remains are interred in St. Catherine's Cemetery at DuBois, Pa.

The Rt. Rev. Monsignor John R. Link succeeded Father Wienker in February, 1904. The Rev. John R. Keating, first assistant pastor to come to Punxsutawney, began his duties June 7, 1933. He now has charge of St. Adrian's Church, Adrian, Pa. On July 12, 1940, the Rev. Francis G. McCullough became the second assistant pastor. The Rev. Joseph Maryland came here on July 2, 1942, as the third in line of assistants. On October 10, 1947, he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church at Anita, Pa., and the Rev. James F. Daily received the Punxsutawney assignment. The Rev. Francis J. Turner, who on July 2, 1939, became the third pastor, is still serving in that capacity.—By Nelle Guthrie Zimmer.

### SAINTS PETER AND PAUL'S GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

More than fifty years ago, many Slavonic people from Hungary settled in this locality. They brought with them a priceless heritage, their Greek Catholic faith. This heritage had been treasured, nurtured, and continues to flourish among the faithful congregation of this parish.

At the turn of the century Walston and Adrian were two thriving mining towns made up mostly of Slavs and Hungarians. These people were held together by a common love of their native customs and their religion. They banded together and worked diligently toward establishing the Greek Catholic Church and congregation in Punxsutawney.



Saints Peter and Paul's Greek Catholic Church



Through the zealous and untiring efforts of Father Sabo, the SS. Peter and Paul's Greek Catholic parish was founded in 1893. This pioneer priest came with his family to Punxsutawney in December, 1893. He was cordially received by Mr. S. Keltonik, a merchant in Punxsutawney, whose kindness and generosity made it possible for Father Sabo to begin the organization of the parish.

Father Sabo said his first Sunday Mass in a private home in Adrian, Pa., in December, 1893. For several months he journeyed through the surrounding territory gathering together the groups of Greek Catholics, who were located in this vicinity. Masses were celebrated for the people in various private homes and in the Lindsey Hall. Through the kindness of L. W. Robinson, manager of the R. and P. Coal Company, a hall was secured in Adrian, and Father Sabo conducted divine services in this building for almost a year.

As he was the first Greek Rite Catholic priest in this section of the country, Father Sabo experienced difficulty in being recognized by the Roman Rite Catholic Diocese as a legitimate Catholic priest. This misunderstanding persisted for eight years.

The great coal strike of 1894 added to the handicaps and hardships of this pioneer priest. When the strike ended, Father Sabo began with renewed vigor to work for a church and a parish house. Plans for these were drawn up by a Mr. Parks in the winter of 1894. The church and rectory were built at a cost of \$3,200, furnishings for the two buildings amounted to \$1,500, and the total investments were about \$6,000. An acre of land, situated between Punxsutawney and Adrian, was donated by the coal company of Adrian, and designated to be used as the cemetery. On July 4, 1895, the completed church was solemnly blessed, and the celebrant at the Mass was the Reverend Volkay of Brooklyn, N. Y. The sermons were delivered by the Reverend Laurisn of Shenandoah, Pa., and the Reverend Demyanovich of Trenton, N. J.

Father Sabo was transferred to a parish in Pittsburgh in June 1901. The Reverend Mhley continued the splendid work of his predecessor. Under the priestly guidance of Father Mhley, the congregation became more united and consolidated. The plans of the parish church were drawn up by Marius Rousseau, an architect from Pittsburgh. The Reverend Mhley left the parish in October, 1913, and was succeeded by the Reverend Sigismund Brinsky. In 1914, through the efforts of Father Brinsky, the SS. Peter and Paul's parish was privileged to participate in an inspiring mission preached by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Bishop Soter Ortynsky, the first Greek Rite Catholic Bishop appointed to the United States.

In 1919, the Reverend Paul Mankovich took over the parish. He labored untiringly for his people for twenty-five years until his untimely death on February 16, 1943. In April, 1943, the Reverend Theodore Mankovich was recalled from St. Michael's parish in Allentown, Pa., to continue the pastoral duties of his father, the late Reverend Paul Mankovich. Because of the conditions during the war years, Father Theodore Mankovich postponed the redecoration and jubilee celebration of the church until 1947.



Saint Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church

## ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

The history of St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church dates back to 1838. In that year, when the surrounding country was still an unbroken forest, the first congregation, a union of Reformed and Lutheran people, was organized by the Rev. John Althouse. The first permanent church building was erected in 1848 during the pastorate of the Rev. William Englebach on a portion of an acre of land purchased from Dr. J. W. Jenks for ten dollars. This early church was located on Orchard Avenue to the south of the site of the present structure, which is on the corner of Graffius and Orchard Avenues. The land remaining after the building of the church was used as a cemetery where burials were made as early as 1852. The church itself was made of logs. It was necessary for the pastor to mount the pulpit, which was set up high, by means of stairs. There was an aisle through the center of the room, and on each side of it pews were fastened to the wall. The collection was taken by means of a pole with a black bag on the end of it. On the dome of this was a bell which rang when money was dropped into the bag.

As the result of a disagreement the Lutherans withdrew from the organization in 1853 and erected a building on the site of the present German Lutheran Church.

In 1872 the old log church was covered with weather boards and a few other repairs were made. The second church, a red brick structure, was erected in 1888 on the same site as the earlier one.

At the end of the Rev. F. Wiant's pastorate (1883-93), the congregation was left without a pastor until 1901. The Reformed Mission Board took charge of the work but failed to make any progress. The Rev. Lewis Reiter came in 1901, reviving interest in the church, for the membership increased from 30 to 220. The Rev. E. M. Dietrich, who began his pastorate in 1916, was granted a leave of absence from July, 1918, to January, 1919, to enter the United States Army as a chaplain. After serving for five months at Camp Taylor and Camp Meade, he received his discharge December 13, 1918, and returned to Punxsutawney where he served until 1924.



In 1922, during his pastorate, construction of the present church edifice was begun. Stained glass windows were installed, front steps added, several rooms upstairs completed, and the grounds beautified, during the pastorate of Rev. M. N. George. The work of furnishing the sanctuary has now (1949) been completed. The dedication services were held April 24, 1949. The parsonage, a brick building located on Graffius Avenue, was built in 1907.

The following is a list of pastors and the year they served: John Althouse, 1938-42; William Englebach, 1843-53; J. Bryant, 1853-54; L. Boyer, 1854-57; I. Limberg, 1857-72; J. Walbach, 1872-81; T. Metzgar, 1884-91; D. Dietz, 1891-93; F. Wiant, 1893-95; Lewis Reiter, 1901-04; U. O. H. Kerschner, 1905-15; E. M. Dietrich, 1916-24; M. N. George, 1925-47. The Rev. C. O. Leibig is the present pastor (1949).

## THE SALVATION ARMY

The purpose of this organization is to build religious character and to give social welfare service to the people of every race, color, and creed. Captain and Mrs. James A. Dihle are the present officers of the Jefferson County headquarters located at 229 West Mahoning Street in Punxsutawney.

The Salvation Army was brought to its present site in 1917 from 424 West Mahoning Street under the supervision of Captain Anderson, who led the corps from 1901 until 1917.

The Salvation Army has been defined as "A Spiritual Organization with a Social Service Purpose," and "A Social Service Organization with a Spiritual

Purpose." The motivating force behind all the varied types of Salvation Army work has always been a desire to represent the principles of Jesus Christ in a practical, every-day fashion.

One service offered by this organization is open-air evangelism, in which 124 meetings were held on the street or in the park during 1948. An average of nine Salvationists took part in each of these meetings and were heard by over 6,000 people. Indoor evangelism meetings were held for adults. 3,380 attended the 103 Sunday meetings while 1,458 attended the 98 week-night meetings. Fourteen seekers of salvation were helped and 3,985 children attended social gatherings.

The Army social welfare program ministers help the poor, the unfortunate, and the underprivileged: the distraught mother, whose husband has left her to care for the children; the unfortunate girl, who is more sinned against than sinning; the mother, whose son is missing; the over-worked father, whose wife is unfaithful, and who wants the Army to secure some one to care for his children; the young girl, who needs work to support herself and the baby, because her husband has left; the frantic daughter, who wants help and medical attention for her mother; the neighbors, who are greatly concerned about the neglected children; and the parents of a large family, who cannot agree domestically and need guidance. All these and many more may come daily to the office to see the Captain and request help which is cheerfully given. Last year 322 individuals applied for and received emergency or undercare assistance from the Army in Punxsutawney. One hundred and two were transient persons seeking a place to stay at night, while 220 requested aid for their families. Special features of this program were the granting of seasonal comforts to over 100 families and the sending of six under-privileged children during the summer to the Fresh Air Camp.

The Army has a service known as character building, which includes a young people's group who practice gymnastics and group work. In addition to this group, an organization of women, mostly mothers, meets weekly for recreation and homemaking activities. Last year the attendance of this group was 816 in the 52 scheduled meetings.

When an emergency arises, the Army is prepared to render service to rescue workers, fire fighters, and similar groups. The local corps was called upon on two different occasions in 1948 to provide refreshments for firemen and others when disaster struck. The Salvation Army assists victims of misfortune in the way of temporary housing, emergency rations, clothing, and house furnishings. The Salvation Army always stands ready to serve when needed.

## THE WELSH BAPTIST CHURCH

The Welsh Baptist Church was organized in the home of Thomas Gibbons of Horatio Street in the year 1888. The meetings were held in a school house where the homes of Dan Williams and Mrs. Thomas Korsmo are today, 125-127 North Main Street. In the year 1889, a church building was erected on the corner of North Main and Perry Streets. The building is now (1949) occupied by the Church of God. The first pastor of the Welsh Baptist Church was the Reverend John R. Jones who, in fact, was the



Salvation Army



prime mover in building and finishing the project. He was ably assisted by the members of the organization and their families. The trustees were: D. N. Jones, Thomas Gibson, Robert J. Morris, David Edwards, and Rev. John R. Jones. Some of the ministers were as follows: Reverends John H. Jones, D. C. Edwards, and M. H. Jones.

During the year 1890, there were a few Christian members of the Welsh Baptist Church walking from Horatio to Clayville, or West End as it is now called, on Sundays to attend church services and Sunday School and occasionally on week nights to attend prayer meetings and business meetings necessary to carry on the work of the church. The Welsh Baptist Church, having an extra lot, decided to sell the lot and donate the proceeds to the building of a church in Horatio. The lot sold for \$420.00, of which \$400.00 was donated to the building of a church in Horatio.

The Punxsutawney church prospered for nearly 34 years or until the decline of the coal operations at Walston and Horatio, when many of its members moved or joined the First Baptist Church of Punxsutawney. Later, the church building was given to the Pennsylvania Christian Board of Missions with the understanding that it would not be used or sold for anything but church work. Rev. Dr. S. Thomas was the last minister to serve the church which was closed in 1920.

The Lindsey (or Clayville) High School always held its baccalaureate and commencement exercises in the Baptist Church.

Two active young people's temperance societies, the Garfield Roll of Honor and the Good Templars, were organized and met in this church.

On March first, St. David's Day, the Welsh people of Lindsey always held their Eisteddfods in the Baptist Church.

### THE WELSH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Welsh Congregational Church was organized in July, 1890, in the Horatio Congregational Church. As there was not in Punxsutawney a church in which to hold meetings, the services were held in Quinlisk's Hall. Then in 1891, Daniel R. Davis bought the old Lindsey school house, the upstairs of which the congregation rented and used as a meeting place. In 1892, the Reverend Isaac Thomas became pastor and remained for 10 years.

The morning services on Sundays were all in Welsh, but the evening services were in English. Sunday School was at 2 o'clock. There was a large choir which provided very good music. Wednesday night was devoted to prayer meetings, and on Saturday nights there was Christian Endeavor for the young people. Because the church was very strict, dancing was practically unheard of among the younger generation.

The Reverend Thomas retired in 1902 and was succeeded 14 years later by the Reverend A. D. Rhea. Although the church was often without a minister, services were held as usual. The first deacons were Daniel Harris, David J. Owens and William J. Jones. The first trustees were David X. Williams, Edward Parry, and Edward Williams.

It was customary in the Welsh church to have an "after-meeting" immediately following the regular

services. Before the last hymn, the pastor would announce that an "after-meeting" would be held for all those who wished to stay. The people were very fond of singing Welsh hymns, and for that reason the meetings were always long. The deacons, trustees, and singing leader sat in the front seats. The men of the congregation sat on one side of the church, and the women, on the other so that they could have four-part singing. When the hymns were announced, the deacons and trustees faced the congregation and the leader.

Between 1885 and 1890, many Welsh people came to Lindsey from Bradford, Tioga, and Clearfield counties and from the state of Ohio. These people brought with them their customs and songs.

One of the most popular customs was the Eisteddfod. Eisteddfod is the Welsh word for contest. The Eisteddfod for many centuries has protected and preserved the language, literature, poetry, and customs of the Welsh people. Through it national pride and patriotism have been fostered and cultivated. Its aim is education. The contests were held on St. David's Day (March 1) and on Christmas, in the Baptist Church (except one year when it was held in the "Opera House"). People competed with each other in speaking and singing. The largest Eisteddfod ever held in Punxsutawney, was in 1894 in the Fish "Opera House." Judicators from Pittsburgh, Scranton and Sharon came to judge the contestants. Each of the four choirs competing was permitted to have a maximum of 30 people. The Welsh Baptist and Congregational Churches of Horatio were competing with the Welsh Baptist and Congregational Churches of Lindsey. There was also competition between children and individual adults. The prizes were velvet ribbons with small bags or sacks containing money, tied to the end.

The church, located at 121 West Main Street, was built and dedicated in 1904. The Reverend J. Twyson Jones and the Reverend James Jenkins, both of Evansburgh, and the Reverend Newton from Pittsburgh were here to dedicate the church. When the Reverend Arthur D. Rhea left, the church was sold and the building was moved away from Punxsutawney.

The windows and pews of the Welsh Congregational Church were placed in the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints when the Welsh church was moved away.



Wesleyan Methodist Church



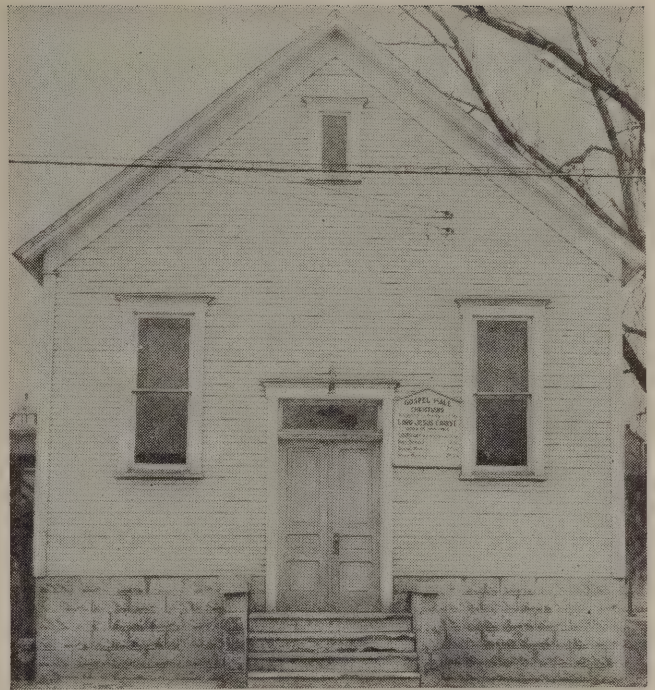
## WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was founded in 1938, after tent meetings held by Cox and Rushing, evangelists. The church was first located in a hall on West Winslow Street. Thirteen people helped with the founding of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sloniger and Mrs. Ella Anderson were among the more prominent workers. At the present time there are 27 church members and an enrollment of 65 in the Sunday School.

The first minister was Ollin Psautz. He was followed by the Rev. Pugh, the Rev. Hain, the Rev. Blaine West, and the Rev. L. S. Burchfield. The present pastor is Mark Larson. The church is located on the northeast corner of North Main and Cleveland Streets.

## GOSPEL HALL

"Gospel Hall" is the name applied to the church in which a relatively small number of local residents meet, "Christians gathered in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ." The members, known as "Brethren" and originally as "Plymouth Brethren," conduct the services. The group is undenominational. Organized here more than 50 years ago by William Frew, William Dennis and Joseph Dennison the Brethren originally met in various places downtown. Shortly after 1900 the building known as "Gospel Hall" on Elk Run Avenue, was erected, the late Andrew Nichols playing a prominent part in promoting its con-



Gospel Hall

struction. There are at present about 15 affiliated with the group which at one time numbered more than 50. George Murray and Clifton Wineberg, of this city, and Lloyd Wineberg, of Washington, D. C., are the trustees.

# EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

## PUNXSUTAWNEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By J. T. Downey

Since the early days of Punxsutawney, education has played an important part in the lives of its citizens. Through the years numerous changes and improvements have occurred. It is a far cry from the first little log-cabin schoolhouse to the modern Frank S. Jackson building and the new East End building. Likewise, little comparison exists between the three R's of former times and the broader scope of today's curriculum with its special departments.

The first schoolhouse, made of logs, was built near the site of the present Jefferson Street High School building. Greased paper, over opening in the walls,



Schoolhouse that stood on Barclay Square

served as windows. The seats were made of broad pieces of split logs, hewn smooth on the upper sides; the desks consisted of boards fastened to the walls.

The next school, a frame structure, was located on the southwest corner of what later became known as Barclay Square.

A four-room brick building was erected in 1867 at the place where the first school had stood on Jefferson Street. This building provided ample space for the accommodation of pupils until 1886, when the extension of the borough limits made it necessary to rent rooms to care for the additional children.



The former Mary A. Wilson Building

In 1890, the East End building (Mary A. Wilson building) of eight rooms was constructed on lots donated by the company that laid out that part of



town. Soon this building became overcrowded, and in 1893 an addition was built. At that time, the building housed the elementary school and part of the high school. In 1897, the old four-room brick building on Jefferson Street, which had been vacant from 1890, was remodeled, and the high school transferred there. The Mary A. Wilson building continued in use as an elementary school until 1938 when it was condemned and torn down by W.P.A. labor.

By the fall of 1902, the Jenks Hill School, a four-room frame building, was occupied for the first time. Four years later, four rooms of brick structure were added and the old part of the building brick-veneered. This building remained in use as an elementary school until January 15, 1948, when it was destroyed by fire.



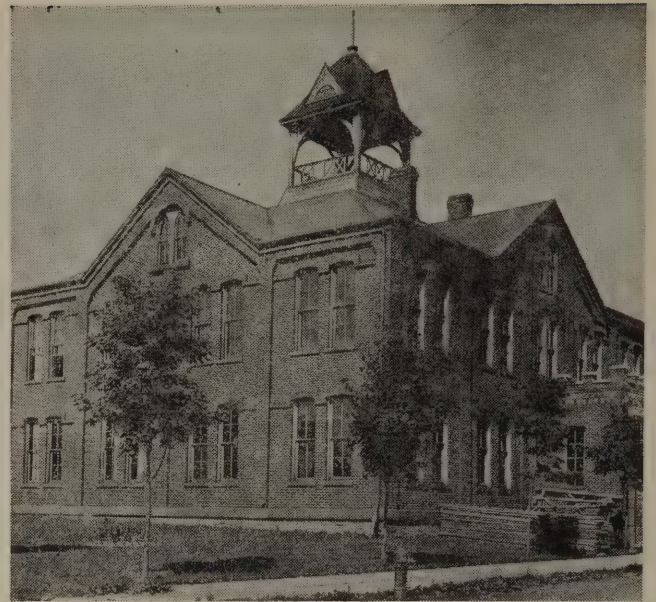
The former Jenks Hill Building

After the borough of Punxsutawney and the adjacent borough of Lindsey were united in 1907, a large, modern building was erected to house the combined high schools. This is the present Jefferson Street School. With the uniting of the two boroughs, the West End building, built in 1891, became a part of the Punxsutawney school system.

In the fall of 1915 the John A. Weber Manual Training and Domestic Science School was erected and opened for classes. The school cooperates with the public schools, and regular public school work has been covered in this building since its erection.



The Jefferson Street School Building.



West End School Building

In 1932 four rooms were added to the second floor of the Weber Building.

During the year 1936-37 the present Frank S. Jackson building was erected. This building includes a beautiful auditorium, seating 1,000, a gymnasium seating 800, locker rooms, science laboratories, superintendent's office, nurse and dental rooms, and a number of class rooms. The building was first used for commencement exercises in June, 1937.

At present an East End school is under erection on the site of the former Mary A. Wilson building. Made of brick, it will contain twelve classrooms, kindergarten room, office, clinic room, and a small assembly room. This building will be ready for occupancy with the start of the fall term in 1949.

Several other buildings in the West End and Jenks Hill sections were used as schools before 1900, but none of these were Punxsutawney borough schools. Also from time to time the directors of the borough schools were compelled to rent rooms to house the ever-increasing school population. In addition, private schools were conducted at several locations.

Two of the schools in our city have been named for those who gave many years of faithful service. The East End building, built in 1890, was shortly after its erection named the Mary A. Wilson building as a memorial to a devoted and loved teacher of the city schools. For over half a century Miss Wilson presided over the destinies of the primary grades. She began her teaching in the local schools in 1857 and taught continuously until 1908 and is thought to have the longest service of any teacher locally. By her gentle art and kindly bearing, she contributed immeasurably to the development of what is best in thousands of pupils. Faithfulness to duty, kindness, thorough-





Miss Mary A. Wilson

ness, fidelity, sweetness of character, graciousness, and love of youth have been given by those who knew Miss Wilson as outstanding traits of her character. In 1893 the *Pittsburgh Times* conducted a voting contest to determine the most popular teacher in Western Pennsylvania. Miss Mary carried off the honors.

A few months after the dedication of the new high school building in 1937, on Jefferson Street, it was, by resolution of the Board of Education, named the Frank S. Jackson building, in honor of that educator who had so capably served as head of the Punxsutawney schools for a period of 30 years. Under Mr. Jackson's leadership the schools made steady progress and were recognized as second to none in the state. Mr. Jackson came to the Punxsutawney schools as high school principal in 1908. A few months later Mr. Hammers, superintendent of schools, died, and Mr. Jackson was elevated to this position. In addition to his duties in the local schools, he taught several terms in the Indiana Normal School. He was a frequent contributor to various

educational publications. He was ever helping with community projects. As a member and officer of the Y.M.C.A. board, the Public Library, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge, and Presbyterian Church, his advice and counsel were of untold value. To this humble, sincere, capable and conscientious school leader, the schools and children of Punxsutawney will be forever indebted.

J. L. Allison was the first superintendent of the Punxsutawney schools. He served in this capacity from 1883 until 1902. In this latter year he was elected superintendent of the Wilkesburg schools. Between the years 1902-06, R. A. Anderson, Mr. Donnell, and Jay Marks served as city superintendents. In 1906 A. M. Hammers, a member of the Indiana Normal School faculty, was elected superintendent. He died in office in 1908 and was succeeded, as previously stated by Frank S. Jackson. Mr. Jackson served the schools for a period of 30 years, retiring in 1938. James T. Downie has been superintendent from 1938 to the present time.

When Mr. Downie became superintendent, he was fortunate in inheriting Mr. Jackson's capable secretary, Miss Alice Graffius (now Mrs. Russell Parsons). She had served since 1924 as secretary, first to the high school principal and then, after the resignation of Miss Adelaide Jenkins, as secretary to the superintendent. Mrs. Parsons is still (1949) competently filling the same position.

The first one to hold the title of high school principal was a man by the name of Willier about 1903. When Clayville and Punxsutawney were consolidated, a Mr. Conrad, who had served as supervising principal of Clayville, became high school principal of the combined schools. He was followed in 1908 by Frank S. Jackson who was elected to the position of superintendent of schools a few months after coming to Punxsutawney. Friend McCoy, Ralph S. Boots, and Harold Cramblett in turn succeeded to the position. In 1918 Miss Mary J. Robinson, who had taught a number of years in the city schools, was elected principal. Miss Robinson served in this capacity until 1935. Her term is remembered as one in which the schools experienced a rapid advancement. James T. Downie succeeded Miss Robinson. In 1938 he was elected superintendent and was succeeded by Nelson H. Boyd, who is the present principal. The assistant principal is Marvin B. Clark.



The Frank S. Jackson Public School Building





The New Mary A. Wilson Building

In the elementary school, Leroy Sutter, Miss Aura Law, O. O. Williams, and W. B. Haines served capably and faithfully as principals for many years.

A history of the Punxsutawney schools would not be complete without mentioning a few of its outstanding teachers. It is impossible to make a complete list and some will be omitted that should be listed. Andrew Bowman is thought to be the pioneer teacher of Punxsutawney. Other teachers in the early history of our schools included Hugh Kenworth, Robert Cunningham, Thomas Cunningham, M. Cook, Pearl Roundy, Joseph Hutchinson, and Lemuel Carey. When a four-room building was erected on Jefferson Street in 1867, the teachers for the fall term were J. T. Kelso, Agnes Thompson, Mary A. Wilson and J. L. Allison. High school teachers, who taught with Mr. Allison, included: Georgie Martin, Laura Bruce, Clymer Freas, N. P. Shockey, E. H. McHenry, E. J. Parker, A. W. Mumper, and Jay Snyder. Many others gave long and faithful service. Among those who have taught in our city schools for a period of 40 years are: Mary A. Wilson, Edith J. Lester, Elizabeth D. Jones, Margaret Cokely, Mary J. Robinson, Ivan J. Reed, and Aura Law. The following are known to have given at least 20 years of service: Myra S. Brown, Gertrude Coleman, Myra Kelly, O. O. Williams, Bertha V. Beyer, Lillian Streamer, F. S. Jackson, Ella Campbell, Nan P. Graffius, Sara Harl, Anna Lowry, Carrie Nolph, Binnie McConnaughey, Margaret C. Boles, Sara Bowers, N. H. Boyd, H. L. Campbell, Clare Coleman, Mary J. Fenton, W. B. Haines, Mable Monroe, Romaine Moore, Layton Murray, Sara L. Pantall, Mildred Postlewaite, A. H. Sherk, Margaret Smith, Mariam Thompson, Rose Wargny, and Dorothy M. Wood.

During the history of the Punxsutawney schools the school term was but from three to four months in length. In 1869 the term was lengthened to five months. The number of months in the school year was increased from time to time, but not until 1910 was the present nine months' term in operation.

The enrollment in the public schools has increased from a few students, housed in one room, to 2,150, the enrollment in all rooms, kindergarten through high school during the 1948-49 school term.

The earliest record available of non-resident pupils attending the Punxsutawney High School is for the year 1912-13. At that time 26 students were enrolled from outlying districts: 13 from Bell Township, 10 from Young Township, and 3 from North Mahoning Township. Year after year this number has increased and today the non-resident pupils number 836 and come from 27 districts. Likewise the amount of money spent on education has increased from year to year. In 1835 state aid for education in Jefferson county was \$104.94. In 1880 state aid for Punxsutawney was \$155.40. During the present school year 1948-49, the appropriation will amount to \$155,000.00.

The early elementary schools of Punxsutawney, as elsewhere, were considered as the schools of the three R's. The United States Speller, the Western Calculator, and the English Reader were standard texts in the early schools of our city. The elementary school has broadened its curriculum the last few years, especially in regard to the development of desirable attitudes, ideals, social contacts, group living, and individual growth. In the early history of the elementary schools of our city, the alphabetic method was the means of teaching reading. This was followed by the phonetic method; next came the word method, and later the sentence method, and today the story method. Reading continues to maintain a primary place in the curriculum today. When arithmetic was first taught in our schools, the emphasis was wholly upon manipulation of abstract numbers. Today's arithmetic is taught through the concrete problem method with sufficient repetition to use essential facts and processes in mind. Writing has always had a prominent place in the elementary curriculum of the Punxsutawney schools. In 1919 Punxsutawney was the first school in Jefferson County to use the Peterson System of penmanship supervision. This system is still being used in regular conferences with teachers, and a systematic checkup of pupils' work has developed a satisfactory standard of practical writing at each grade level.

The present teachers in the elementary school are: Margaret G. Smith, A. Romaine Moore, Vivian G. Ray, Layton S. Murray, Georgie S. Whiteman, Lillian S. Funk, Anna Y. Heston, Sara B. Bowers, Thelma Cobb, W. B. Haines, Alta Neal, Mildred Postlewaite, Genevieve Carrick, Geraldine Tronzo, Mayme E. Smith, Elizabeth Gibson, Alice Doak, John Rentschler, Edith J. Lester, Martha E. Lloyd, Virginia Mauk; and in the kindergarten: Marie C. Halchin and Miriam Watson.

During the 10 years preceding 1893 the high school subject field consisted of some advanced work in algebra and bookkeeping. In 1893 a tenth grade of secondary work was added. In 1896 a four year course of high school training was inaugurated in the Punxsutawney schools. The curriculum was an academic one and its purpose to fit students for college. Latin, rhetoric, literature, civil government, science, language, botany, physics, German, algebra, geometry, arithmetic, chemistry, history, music, and English are listed as subjects taught in the years 1904 to 1907.

Although many other departments have been added, the high school continues to offer a strictly academic college preparatory course. For pupils who are not preparing for college or not specializing in some vocational field, the school offers a general course which gives a broad foundation.

The teachers in these academic, general, and non-vocational fields in both senior and junior high school are as follows: Frank J. Basile, world geography; Jennings Beam, English; Margaret Cabell Boles, English; John Brennan, social studies; Ray R. Caylor, social studies; M. Clare Coleman, English; Miriam Cokely, Latin, social studies; J. Clifford Doney, mathematics; Gerald Fetterman, mathematics; Joseph Halchin, mathematics, social studies; Joseph V. Harrick, mathematics; Ethel B. Henry, geography, Dorothy Pringle, social studies, English; Marion Johns, mathematics; Mildred Krider, mathematics, health, geography, sci-





The John A. Weber Building

ence; Betty G. Lewis, English, speech; Agnes Lowry, English; Orveta McClelland, English, history, health; Clyde Meneely, science, guidance; Elmer R. Miller, social studies; Melvin Mitchell, science; Sara L. Pantall, French, social studies; Harry W. Ray, science, health; Frances N. Robinson, English; Herman Sherk, science; William Shick, English; Mildred Stockdale, social studies; May S. Strachan, Spanish, English; Edna Taylor, English; Mariam Thompson, social studies; Rose Wargny, English; Thomas E. Wilson, science, mathematics; William Oleszewski, physical education.

The Commercial Department of Punxsutawney High School was started in 1912 by John Haas as the teacher. The new department soon gained a reputation for training capable office workers, and that reputation has been maintained through the years.

For several years it was a one-teacher department and the course consisted of two years each of shorthand, typwriting, and bookkeeping, and one-half year each of business arithmetic, business law, and commercial geography. As the high school grew, so did the commercial department. The field of subjects offered was broadened and teachers added as the need arose.

From 1925 to the present time, the Commercial Department has been a Cooperative Training Center for Indiana State Teachers College. About 200 student teachers have been trained in the Punxsutawney High School commercial department during the years since 1925.

Today, three separate courses are offered: the clerical course, which trains for general office work with special emphasis on office machines—ediphones, calculators, comptometers, adding machines, bookkeeping machine, ditto, mimeograph, etc.; the bookkeeping course, which gives a good training in bookkeeping and elementary accounting; and the secretarial course, for the training of stenographers.

Since 1940, a cooperative training program has been in effect. Under this program, each senior, for one month during his last semester, works in a local office one-half day and attends school one-half day, thus getting some actual business experience.

At the present time, there are four regular teachers and eleven student teachers in the Commercial Department, of which Miss Mable Monroe has been the head since 1920. The assistants in this department are: George G. West, Edith Bowers, Noble V. Fritz.

The Homemaking Department had its origin in 1915. A course in domestic science was added to the school curriculum at that time in connection with the opening of the new Weber Building. Miss Minnie Harris, a native of Ohio and a graduate of Carnegie Tech, was the first teacher. She was instrumental in equipping the department and in establishing the new course which consisted principally of cooking and sewing. During this first year she was assisted by Isabel Cutler, of Punxsutawney.

This general type of program continued until 1940 when a three year vocational homemaking course was added. At this time the curriculum was revised and expanded to include all phases of homemaking education. The following year the department became a student teaching center for Indiana State Teachers College with eight homemaking student teachers training here each year. Homemaking became a required subject for all seventh, eighth and ninth grade girls in 1946. To help care for the greatly increased enrollment, a second full-time teacher was employed. An integral part of the present department is the local chapter of the national organization, the Future Homemakers of America, which was established the same year. Two years later, a boys' class was organized for the first time in the history of the school.

Since 1915 there have been numerous changes in arrangement and equipment of the rooms in order to keep up to date with changes in curriculum and in methods of teaching. The teaching force has grown to two full-time teachers and two student teachers. Miss Edna Pifer is the present head of this department; her assistant is Marjorie Harvey.

The first record of music supervision in the Punxsutawney schools was for the year 1902. Miss Nell Monks was the instructor. She stayed one year. In 1903 Miss Elizabeth Putney (now Mrs. William Her-



pel, of Indiana, Pa.) was employed as a music supervisor. While in the Punxsutawney schools Miss Putney supervised the music work of the grades, organized various vocal groups in the high school, and started the first school orchestra. The first high school band was organized in 1923-24 under the supervision of Miss Marjorie Holmes. Since that year, the school has maintained with slight interruptions a band, an orchestra, and several choral groups. Individual instruction is given on various musical instruments and on the Hammond organ which was purchased April 15, 1948, from funds raised by various school organizations.

The members of the music department are: Donald M. Roderick, Esther Jane Davis, and William W. Shick.

The first record of art in the Punxsutawney schools was in 1916, when art work was introduced in high school and supervision in the grades. The first art teacher was Miss Addie M. Fields, and the first art room was in a basement room of the Jefferson Street building.

Today art in the grades is correlated with the seasons, holidays, and the other school subjects. In junior high school the course consists mainly of appreciation and experimentation in different media. In high school the art student has a chance to use a wide variety of media, pencil, charcoal, pastel, oil painting, water color, textile painting, modeling, crafts, etc.

Art is one of the most popular electives in the high school, as is evidenced by the great increase in enrollment. The department is now under the supervision of Dorothy M. Wood, who is assisted by Harriet Bar-tow.

W. M. Powell was the first teacher of manual training. The work was entirely woodwork in the beginning. Various improvements were made, and in 1939 the work in the school was expanded by the addition of a rather complete line of sheet metal equipment, equipment for elementary electricity, and two engine lathes for metal cutting. During World War II machine shop equipment was installed in the building for the inauguration of the Vocational Educational National Defense School. After this school had served its purpose and closed, the equipment was purchased by the Punxsutawney school district. This was augmented from time to time by a small amount of war surplus equipment; and in 1944 the vocational machine shops course was started; and following this, in 1946, the vocational auto mechanics course came into being. These courses were continued till the close of school in 1948 when both of these courses were temporarily discontinued because of the inability to secure adequate and satisfactory locations for the conduct of these courses. At present the industrial education for boys in the Punxsutawney schools consists of the general industrial arts shop where boys are taught woodwork, sheet metal work, and elementary electricity; and the industrial arts machine shop. In addition, boys must also take work in mechanical drawing during each year. This subject is taught by Merwin Wood. Other members of the industrial arts staff are: Howard L. Campbell and Keith Snyder.

The medical department in the Punxsutawney schools has grown with the years. In 1910 Dr. C. W. Hughes started medical examinations. The school

nurse was originally supplied in cooperation with the American Red Cross. In 1921 Miss Bertha Beyer was made a member of the faculty. In compliance with Act No. 425 passed by the State Legislature in 1945, routine medical examinations and audiometer testing of the pupils of the odd grades were introduced. At present, approximately 1100 examinations and audiometric tests are made annually. The school nurse follows up these examinations and tests to inform the parents of the importance of having corrections made where defects are found and, at the same time, to make a closer tie between the home and the school.

Oral Hygiene is a comparatively new profession being approximately 30 years old. It was introduced in the Punxsutawney public schools in 1927. The first dental hygienist was Pauline Stayer. She not only gave the children a dental prophylaxis, but also taught them sanitary science. She illustrated to them how dental hygiene affected them physically and socially. In 1945 dental examinations by qualified dentists were started in our schools.

The present staff is as follows: Medical: Ruth F. Goebel, school nurse; Vivian Ohs, dental hygienist; medical inspectors: Dr. Francis Trunzo, Dr. H. D. Maginley and Dr. Jeanne A. Cooper. Dental examiners: Dr. Harry Furniss, Dr. Murray Gross, and Dr. Kenneth H. Jones. Attendance: Clarabelle Means.

The High School Library was added to facilities in the fall of 1929. Before that time a collection of books was housed in the corner of Room T of the Jefferson Street building. This collection was under the supervision of Miss Margaret Boles and was cared for by senior girls. In 1929, the books were moved to the single portable at the side of the Jefferson Street building, where they continued to be housed until the Frank S. Jackson building was completed, when they were moved into the Jefferson Street building.

At present there are 4300 books and 60 magazines on the shelves of the high school library. Each junior high school pupil spends one period per week in the library. Library science is taught and pupils are permitted to use the books and magazines at hand. Miss Mary Fenton has been the school librarian since September, 1930.

Some years ago it became apparent that all of the needs of the students in Punxsutawney High School were not being met by the incidental guidance given by the class room and the home room teachers. At that time a teacher was freed for several periods a day, and later on two teachers were assigned to part time guidance work. Now there is a guidance counselor for girls and one for boys. These people spend about one half of each school day in guidance. They organize, plan, and encourage the guidance program as well as hold individual conferences with students. Some of the other major responsibilities have been to orient the student as to the type of courses, and plan their courses with them; to administer and use intelligence as well as occupational inventory tests; to give educational guidance to veterans, and to aid the home room teachers in the home room guidance period.

Prior to 1937 physical education was very limited in the Punxsutawney school system. It consisted of having supervised student leaders conduct calisthenics in their home rooms once a week.



Modern physical education, as we know it today, had its origin with the completion of the Frank S. Jackson building and its necessary gymnasium.

From the year 1937 to the present time the physical education program has been of an informal nature for both boys and girls. The present instructors in this field are: Clarence E. Binney, Erla Malone and Marian West.

The interests of rural Punxsutawney are served by the agriculture department, which was started in 1945 under the direction of William Mechling, Jr. Enrollment has grown from the original group of 35 to a maximum of 55 rural students. Practically all phases of activity common to farm living are studied, with the view to increasing production and improving farm living. The students are particularly proud of their dairy cattle, hogs, and their farm enterprises which they own themselves. Farming and related occupations claim practically all of the vocational agriculture graduates.

Previous to 1946, the school system was organized with the first eight grades as the elementary group and the last four grades as the high school. In that year, the school was re-organized, grades seven, eight and nine becoming the junior high school, and grades ten, eleven and twelve comprising the senior high school. The purpose of the junior high school is the extension of general instruction one year longer than formerly, with specialized classes beginning the tenth year instead of the ninth year. Exploratory courses are given in the ninth year so that the student may find the field best suited to his interests and ability.

The Punxsutawney High School is a member of the Middle Atlantic States Association. To become a member of the association the school must meet the standards set up for such accreditation. Punxsutawney High School was accredited in April, 1946. As a member of the association the validity of its credits is assured for admission to colleges, nurses' training schools, etc., that will accept students without further examination.

Before 1908 there were practically no extra-curricular activities in the Punxsutawney schools. Track and field activity, under the direction of Superintendent Frank S. Jackson, started in 1907-08 at the same time that basketball became a high school sport. Fifteen years later, in 1923, football was introduced.

The first school publication, *The Mirror*, was produced in 1909, under the direction of Miss Rachel Brooks, and has continued as a school publication until the present time. A school newspaper called *The Torch* was first published in 1924. It was later discontinued, and in 1936 a new paper, under the name of *Hi-Lights*, was published and is today the official school paper. Dramatics has for many years been an important extra-curricular activity. Since 1927, the members of the Thespian Society, which is the high school dramatic club, have coached four or five one-act plays a year for assembly programs. The principal production annually is the high school play.

Clubs, whose main objective is to supplement regular classroom work, have had a steady growth since 1920 and today include over twenty-five organizations.

Looking back over the past, change and advancement stand out as the keynotes of education in Punxsutawney. It appears to be a timely circumstance that a new, up-to-date school building will welcome many

of the young members of the community for the first time during the same year in which this city celebrates its one hundredth anniversary. As the future unfolds for Punxsutawney, who can foresee the limits toward which education will progress?

The Punxsutawney schools have been fortunate in the choice of those who have served on its Board of Education. Dr. Jenks, Charles Barclay, Judge Heath, Rev. David Barclay, Mr. Black and others took an active part in starting in the first school and hiring its teacher. In 1835 members of the board were: C. C. Gaskill, James Winslow and James Torrence. Members of the board listed in 1871 were as follows: James E. Mitchell, W. A. Dunlap, Jacob Zeitler, John G. Graf, J. E. Mitchell, Thaddeus Campbell and John Hastings. Supt. J. L. Allison has given the following members of the board during the 17 years (1883-1900) that he spent in Punxsutawney: J. T. Bell, Adam Miller, John Brewer, Dr. William Altman, I. S. Rosenberger, John B. Bair, W. P. Hastings, James H. Maize, W. W. Winslow, S. L. McQuown, W. F. Witherell, W. M. Fairman, Lowry Young, Dr. George Bell, D. A. Lowe, A. C. Robinson, Sam Rinn, L. C. Myers, A. B. White, J. L. Shields, and Edward S. Swartz. Other members of the school board since 1912 include E. W. Robinson, J. R. Davis, W. A. Sutter, John F. Jenkins, J. W. Fink, Ellis G. Rodkey, George C. Brown, I. B. Williams, Mrs. Margaret Wilson, A. W. Callaway, Dr. F. D. Pringle, W. G. Thomas, D. R. Thomas, Floyd B. Noerr, M. R. Tibby, besides the members of the present board who are: John M. Harvey, president; James M. Coble, vice president; George P. Grube, treasurer; H. T. Jack, secretary; Ned L. Brown, Donald F. Kurtz, and Frank T. Harl.

#### SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

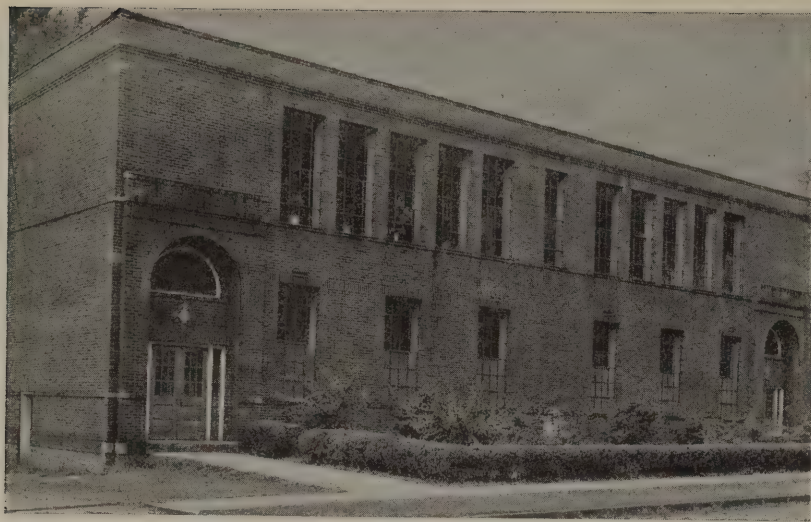
The parish of Punxsutawney, Diocese of Erie, has been singularly blessed in that all three pastors have each intensified the issue of education and have made the school their first thought. In their order of succession they have built, improved, and labored unceasingly to provide the best in education for the children of Punxsutawney, regardless of affiliation, who were desirous of taking advantage of the facilities provided.

Monsignor Wienker erected the first school building, a brick structure of two rooms. That building is located in about the center of the block facing Chestnut Street and still stands. Several times additions have been made above and all around the original building, which consisted of only two class rooms with a center hall. Later the second floor with one class room and a recreation hall was added. Finally the hall became the fourth room, and some classes were held in an improvised third floor. Indicative of the growth of the local parish is the constant providing of additional class rooms.

Rev. H. C. Wienker opened the school in 1892 with 116 pupils and a staff of three Sisters of Mercy, only two of whom taught full time.

Rev. John Link began the grading of the school immediately upon his arrival in 1904, and 1905 saw the first graduating class. They were Sister M. Fidelis O'Connor, Nora Guthrie Fleckenstein, Helen Manning Lorenzo, and Mary Gaynor.





SS. Cosmas & Damian High School

The second class, graduated in 1907, consisted of Sara Watkins Ackerd, Winnifred O'Connor Benson, Nora Callahan Shaver, Ethel Gribben Rogers, Nelle Guthrie Zimmer, Margaret Downey Dowdell, Elizabeth Ernst Flannigan, and Mary Monica O'Connor.

Saints Cosmas and Damian School holds the distinction of being the first parochial school in the state to be rated as an accredited school by the State of Pennsylvania.

There are eight class rooms in the grade school building and in the high school building are four class rooms, a chemical laboratory, a library, a typing room, modern rest rooms, and a large auditorium complete with stage, etc. The high school building on the corner of Pine Street was erected in 1923 and 1924 by Monsignor Link.

Fourteen Sisters of Mercy now teach in the school; and the following courses are taught: Commercial, Scientific and Academic. 1949 graduated fifteen seniors. The school enrollment at present is 374 with 88 in high school.

The Alumni number about 750. On this roster are five priests: Rev. Arthur J. Fleckenstein, Rev. Joseph Murray, C.P., Rev. Theodore Mankovich, Rev. Francis Tushim, and Rev. Stephen Garber. There are 17 nuns, 13 doctors, 35 nurses, 20 teachers, one chemist, and one pharmacist.

Col. Joseph Kane, now serving his country in Japan, is a graduate of SS.C.D. Charles J. Margiotti, former State Attorney General, had his primary education there, and Miss Dolores Yasolsky, a graduate, held a pilot's license at the age of sixteen.

Love and loyalty of the graduates of SS.C.D. is best indicated by the annual dinner and get-together, enjoyed each year, at which the attendance equals 85% of those within traveling distance.

Six of the graduates of SS.C.D. were veterans of World War I, and 167 answered the call for the Second World War.

Occupying positions of high repute and responsibility, the graduates of SS.C.D. are cutting the name of the school all across the nation and are mute testi-

mony of what a united parish can do when everyone assumes his proportionate share of the burden.—By Nelle Guthrie Zimmer.

## THE CLEARFIELD AVIATION INSTITUTE

The Clearfield Aviation Institute was founded in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, in 1939. In April, 1946, the school purchased the old Punxsutawney Hospital building at 103 North Gilpin Street, Punxsutawney. After extensive alterations and remodeling of the building the institute opened its doors to the first class of young men on November 4, 1946.

The school offers four different courses, namely: Airplane Master Mechanic Course, Aircraft Mechanic Course, Aircraft Engine Mechanic Course, and Airplane Design Drafting Course.

The Airplane Master Mechanic Course is of 15 months duration and requires 2400 hours of theory and practical work on maintenance, overhaul, and repair of airplanes. This course qualifies the student for his Civil Aeronautics Administration examination for his aircraft and engine license, which is required of all mechanics who repair, maintain, or overhaul any type of airplanes. The Aircraft Mechanic Course is of nine months duration and requires the student to complete 1440 hours of both theory and practical work on the fuselage of airplanes only. This course qualifies the student for his Civil Aeronautics Administration examination for his aircraft mechanic license, thus entitling him upon precuring his "A" license to work on the fuselages of ships. The Aircraft Engine Mechanic Course is also of nine months duration and covers 1440 hours of theory and practical work. This course is the study of aircraft engines, overhaul and repair, and qualifies the student for his aircraft engine mechanics examination, and upon passing this examination he secures his C.A.A. "E" license, entitling him to work on all types of aircraft engines. The student receives his practical training in the three courses on live airplanes and engines that are brought to the school by private plane owners for overhaul and repair.



Clearfield Aviation Institute



The Airplane Design Drafting Course is actually a junior college course in aeronautical engineering. This course is fifteen months, covering 2400 hours of actual instruction. The design drafting course consists of all forms of higher mathematics, aircraft layout, lofting, design, etc. Many of the graduates of C.A.I. continue their education at other colleges, and receive full credit for their studies towards their Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering.

The Institute is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction and is approved by the U. S. Civil Aeronautics Administration and Veterans Administration for the courses taught.

The graduates of Clearfield Aviation Institute are scattered throughout the United States and South America in the employ of aircraft manufacturers, commercial airlines, airports, and serving in the armed forces.

At present, there are approximately 95 young men attending school. The Institute has a payroll of 14 full time employees; eleven of these are veterans of World War II.

The present officers of the corporation are: President, R. F. Hardin; vice president, F. M. Strock; secretary, R. W. Cousins; treasurer, C. C. Lear. The officers of the Clearfield Aviation Institute cordially invite the citizens and visitors of Punxsutawney to visit the school and inspect the various types of repair shop used for student instruction.—By C. C. Lear.

## PUNXSUTAWNEY FREE LIBRARY

The inception of a free public library in Punxsutawney seems to have been rooted in the interest and activity of several people and groups of people.

The groups included the Irving Club which turned over to the association formed, known as the Punxsutawney Free Library Association, a sum of money left to the club by the late Mrs. John A. Weber, a member of the club; the faculty of the public schools, which previously had set up a library in the high school building for the free use of the public; and the Chautauqua Circle, a large and prominent literary club.

It is interesting to note how the energy and determination of these groups were brought into unified action. Miss Grace Beck, a teacher who spent her summer vacations at her home in Punxsutawney, was from year to year an enthusiastic agitator for the establishment of a public library in our community. As more and more people became interested and the time seemed ripe for bringing interest into unified effort, leadership centered in Mrs. F. D. Pringle whose interest in the library has never flagged; who became the first president of the association formed; and who served the library and the community as president of the library board during her 24 years of service as a member of the board. Much of the continued success of the library has been due to her zeal and understanding.—(*History of the Punxsutawney Free Library*, by F. S. Jackson.)

Sometime prior to August 15, 1916, a meeting was held at the home of Mrs. F. D. Pringle, at which



Punxsutawney Free Library

were representatives of the groups mentioned above. "This group organized the Free Library Association in Punxsutawney, arranged for the framing of a constitution and set up committees to launch a successful and lasting library movement in Punxsutawney."

Shortly after the above meeting, the group held another meeting and seven trustees were elected: Mrs. F. D. Pringle, Miss Aura Law, Mrs. Ed. A. Murray, Frank Morrow, Carl Miner, W. W. Winslow and F. S. Jackson, superintendent of Punxsutawney public schools.

At a meeting held August 15, 1916, these trustees elected the following officers to guide the association through its first years: Mrs. F. D. Pringle, president; F. S. Jackson, vice president; Carl Miner, treasurer, and Miss Aura Law, secretary. Miss Law served continuously for 31 years as secretary of the association. Her interest contributed much to the successful operation of the library.

The Punxsutawney Free Library was opened on December 1, 1916, with Miss Edith Beck as librarian. During the first seven years of its life, the library was supported by money received from food sales, contributions, and benefits. However, the amount of money raised by these means proved inadequate. Therefore, in April, 1921, the trustees met with the borough council and requested the cooperation of that body in levying a tax for support of the library. The question was submitted to the voters in the fall election; but, because of a technicality in the method by which the question had been submitted, it was found necessary to re-submit the question at the election held November 7, 1922. The voters expressed their approval of the levy by a vote of about three to one and, by ordinance, a tax of one mill for the support of a free and non-sectarian public library was assessed.

The following have served as librarians since its organization in 1916: Miss Edith Beck, 1916-17; Miss Alta Bowers, 1917-18; Mrs. Leone Lossman (nee Kurtz) Miss Cynthia Drummond, Anna Young Heston, 1919-20; Miss Beatrice Williams, 1920-24; Miss Florence Davis, 1924-26; Mrs. Katherine Jackson Brew, 1926-32; Miss Mildred Harlan, 1932 to the present time.



The first home of the library was a building at 105 South Jefferson Street. This building continued to house the library until 1944, when the shortage of space became so acute that F. S. Jackson spoke before the Punxsutawney Chamber of Commerce, asking for a new library building. Later, because of his request, the John Jacob Fisher Post of the American Legion donated the former J. L. Fisher residence on West Mahoning Street, with M. R. Tibby as the active head. The building is an impressive one, with three stories and 27 rooms. The new building was officially opened on November 2, 1944.

The Public Library of Punxsutawney has stimulated a growing interest among the citizens of the community for nearly 33 years. We can justly be proud of this thriving institution which has long held an outstanding position in our community.— (Sources: "History of Punxsutawney Free Library," F. S. Jackson; Scrapbook in Library.)

## HOSPITALS

Edited by ROBERT WEAVER

### THE ADRIAN HOSPITAL

The Adrian Hospital is an organization founded to serve Punxsutawney and the surrounding communities. This hospital was founded by Adrian Iselin, of New York, who gave five thousand dollars for that purpose. The first hospital building was erected at the Adrian mines by the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron Company in 1889. The institution, although originally intended to take care of men injured in the mines, soon became a general hospital. Soon the services rendered by the hospital had grown to such an extent that the building was no longer adequate and steps were taken to alleviate this condition. Accordingly, an appropriation of \$100,00 was secured from the State Legislature through W. O. Smith, then representative in Assembly. With this money, the present site was purchased and a new building was completed in 1898. The original structure consisted of the building as it is now (1949) with the exception of the operating room and the private room pavilion, which were added later. The original operating room is now used as a minor operating room and for emergency treatment. The present operating room was added several years later, as was the section known as the private wing.

The first nurse to be on duty for a regular period of time was Mrs. T. R. Williams. The board of trustees in 1909 consisted of S. A. Rinn, president; Dr. W. S. Blaisdell, vice president; S. M. Free, secretary; J. A. Whiteman, treasurer; John H. Bell, B. M. Clark, W. W. Winslow, Dr. T. R. Williams, Dr. C. W. Hughes, John Reed, F. C. Lang, A. W. Calloway, and E. W. Robinson.

In 1949 the superintendent is J. L. Thomas, Jr. The superintendent of nurses is Mrs. Belle Gourley. The hospital at present has 89 beds, and the new maternity wing will increase the capacity to about 120



The Adrian Hospital

beds, and also provide for the laboratory, the x-ray department, and deep therapy. The new wing which is a two story building 160 feet long and 40 feet wide, includes a lobby, and an out-patient department, a lounge and locker room for nurses, an employes' dining room, storage room and an office for the superintendent.

Many persons have contributed to the Adrian Hospital Expansion Fund through the purchase of War Bonds. They purchase E Bonds in the name of the hospital and in this way contribute to one of the community's greatest needs. Through a campaign sponsored by the editor of The Spirit, a large fund was collected in 1948 for the purchase of deep therapy equipment for the hospital. It is impossible to give a complete list of the many contributions that have been made to the hospital.

#### Comparison of Hospital Practices, 1901-1949

Annual reports for the entire period since 1892 are not available. The report for the two years ending September 30, 1902, shows some very interesting facts. For instance, Article 21, of the Rules and Regulations of the association reads as follows: "Pay patients in the wards will be charged \$5.00 per week except such cases as need special care, when an additional charge will be made. Patients in private rooms will be charged from \$10.00 to \$25.00 a week, but no bed patient will be received unless satisfactory arrangements are made for the payment of his hospital charges." This is a decided contrast to present methods of operating hospitals. The statistical report for the year ending September 30, 1901, shows the total number of patients treated was 510. The average number of days of hospitalization per patient in 1900 was 24; the average cost to the hospital per patient at that time was \$31.80 or a cost per patient day of \$1.30. The financial statement for the year ending September 30, 1901, shows \$4,875.00 received from appropriation; \$3,167.90 received from pay patients, resulting in a deficit of \$8,172.07. Some items of cost at that time are of interest. For instance, the annual expenditures for brooms and brushes were \$15.79; for fruit and vegetables, \$735.16; for fuel, \$667.38; for groceries, \$2,981.14; for medical supplies, \$234.09; for salaries of nurses, \$3,160.53; for male employes, labor, etc., \$105.87; the total expenditures for the year were \$15,214.97. During the following year, the expenses increased more than 50 percent to \$25,000, and the deficit increased in proportion. In 1904 the report shows that the rate per week in wards was increased to \$7.00 with no change



in charges for private rooms. At the same time for the year ending September 30, 1904, expenses were up to \$37,463.72. The appropriation had been doubled, but the deficit was up to \$22,633.96. Apparently more effort was made to keep the building clean, because the charges for brooms and brushes had increased from \$15.79 to \$43.08. Supplies, both medical and surgical, were tripled and salaries were on the increase being about \$1,000 more than for the two years previous. Groceries also were on the increase, having gone up approximately \$2,100 in the two year period. At the same time the number of patients treated increased to 728, but the average number of days per patient decreased by 2. The average daily census in 1904 was 45 with a maximum capacity of 68. There are no figures available to indicate the number of general duty nurses. The training school averaged 12 to 14 students per year.

In 1902, the records do not indicate that any obstetrical patients were admitted to the hospital. The assumption is that all deliveries that year were made at home. However, the report of 1904 indicated 5 admissions to obstetrics, all of them under the surgical service. This would indicate that surgical intervention was necessary to complete delivery. During the years from 1904 to 1949, the work in the hospital has grown by leaps and bounds. The following figures are extracted from the annual report for the 50th anniversary in 1937 which shows that the cost of operations for that year in total was \$113,117.34. Of this amount \$21,688.00 was charged to the dietary department; \$23,930.00 to the nursing department; with corresponding increases in all other departments. In 1937, 242 babies were admitted through the obstetrics department. There was a total of 2238 patients treated during the year, with an average hospital stay of 11 days. The average daily cost per patient had risen from \$1.30 to \$3.87, whereas the cost to the patient had not quite doubled.

The report of surgical operations for the year ending September 30, 1901, showed a total of 161 operations. During the years, the work in the hospital grew steadily. The report for the year ending September 30, 1908, showing 442 operations being performed. Apparently people were becoming more conscious of their appendices, because in 1908, 60 were removed, and in 1902, 8. The surgical work in the hospital continued to grow to include a total of 1,127 operations in the year 1937. For the year ending December 31, 1948, a total of 1,421 operations were performed. The total number of patients treated in 1948 was 3,020, which represents a 600 percent increase in patients without any additional facilities being added. This service is accomplished through a reduction in the length of stay per patient; the average stay having been reduced from 24 days to 9 days.—By J. L. Thomas, Jr.

### THE MURRAY SANITARIUM

In 1911, the W. A. Bowers residence, on the corner of Dinsmore Avenue and East Mahoning Street, was purchased for a sanitarium. It was first organized under a charter, but it later became known as the Murray Sanitarium. Dr. J. H. Murray was president, and Miss Olevia Murray was superintendent. She was succeeded by Miss Maud Murphy.

The sanitarium was opened by Dr. John H. Murray October 25, 1911. Before coming to Punxsutaw-



The former Murray Sanitarium

ney, he had practiced in Reynoldsville and had also been a physician for the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron Co. at Soldier and Sykesville. He carried on his practice here until his death in 1938.

The institution was widely known because of its treatment of diseases of the stomach. Patients came from New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Louisiana, Ohio, Michigan, California, Colorado, Washington, D. C., and Pennsylvania. Included on the staff of ten were Doctors Murray, Smathers, Black, and Dove. At least five or six nurses were usually on duty. The hospital accommodated from 18 to 20 patients at one time.

The building, an apartment house, is now owned by Charles Stewart.

### THE PUNXSUTAWNEY HOSPITAL

The Punxsutawney Hospital, often called the Grube Hospital; was founded in 1900 by Dr. John E. Grube. It was first located in the Dinsmore building on West Mahoning Street. After four or five years, the State Board of Health ordered the evacuation of this site. The J. B. Eberhart home, 103 North Gilpin Street, was bought and the hospital was completed in March of 1908. (This building, a large buff brick structure, now houses the Clearfield Aviation Institute.) The hospital was chartered in October of the same year and was taken over by a corporation. Before long, the demand for more space became so great that the officials were compelled to build a new wing.

The following were the board of trustees: J. H. Kennedy, John McLeavy, J. H. Prothero, E. A. Murray, James Phelan, J. A. Weber, and S. S. North. The officers of the Punxsutawney Hospital were: H. G. Bowers, president; J. H. Kennedy, vice president; Dr. John E. Grube, treasurer and superintendent; Jacob L. Fisher, secretary.

The directors of the hospital were: J. B. Eberhart, George W. Porter, Dr. P. G. Spinelli, Dr. J. A. Walter, Dr. J. M. Grube and W. O. Smith. Susan Heitzenrater was the first instructor in the nurses' training school.

Dr. G. M. Musser, who was one of Punxsutawney's most prominent doctors until his death in July of 1948, served as an interne in the Punxsutawney Hospital.

The Punxsutawney Hospital, which merged with the Adrian Hospital April 13, 1932, closed on July 3, 1932.



# CEMETERIES

Compiled by MARY ANN McCLUSKEY

## CALVARY CEMETERY OF SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN'S CHURCH

Prior to 1890 the Catholics of the region used as burial grounds a plot of land situated off Foundry Street and not far from Center Street in the West End. Because of proximity to the coke ovens this small cemetery took on the name of Coke Oven Cemetery. The western part was consecrated and reserved for the Catholic population and the eastern part was used by the general public.

On the acquisition of a new burial ground on South Main Street, many of those who had lots on the coke oven plot removed their dead and re-interred them in the new ground.

Contrary to public opinion burials still take place once in a great while in the old Coke Oven Cemetery. One local mortician had a burial there in 1946 and another in 1948.

It would be impossible because of the ravages of time to estimate the number of graves in the old coke oven plot. Some stones still stand erect, defiant to the passing years, but neglect and disuse have practically obliterated any records.

Monsignor H. Clement Wienker with an eye to the future purchased land on South Main Street from J. Salsgiver. October 21, 1890, Tobias Mullen, Bishop of Erie, consecrated the new plot of ground, now known as Calvary Cemetery. Among the first names entered in the cemetery record by Father Wienker are Michael Magas, Winifreda Fogarty, Thomas Guthrie, and Michael Nealon.

The present pastor, Father Turner, has added considerably to the land holdings at the cemetery, and under his direction the men of the parish have made and are making many improvements in landscaping and roads.

The first sexton in charge of the cemetery was John Madden. After his demise his son Felix Madden took care of the property until Hugh Fitzsimmons was appointed. He was followed by George Hudak; the present caretakers are Nick and Francis Phillips.

## CIRCLE HILL CEMETERY

On January 7, 1890, Henrietta Knarr purchased a plot of land which became Circle Hill Cemetery. At present the cemetery covers sixty acres. Thirty-four of these acres are owned by Charles Knarr and are available for use if needed. The cemetery owned by Henrietta Knarr until her recent death, was first managed by John A. Knarr until his death in 1925. Since that time Charles Knarr has been caretaker and manager. The first burial, that of John Barr Kromer, took place on July 22, 1890. There have been approximately 3,300 burials in the cemetery.

Adjacent to Circle Hill Cemetery is the Greenwood Cemetery, which was laid out by William Steffy in 1905. It consisted then of four acres. The first person buried there was W. E. Johnson in 1905. After William Steffy's death in 1919, Bert Steffy became caretaker of the cemetery. About 800 persons have been buried in the cemetery, which now covers ten acres.

## THE JEWISH CEMETERY

The Jewish Cemetery, adjoining the Oak Lawn Cemetery of Cloe, was begun about 1898. Approximately two hundred members of the faith are buried there.

## THE LEGION MEMORIAL PLOT

The history of the Legion Memorial Plot, one of the most beautiful in the state, will be found in the history of the John Jacob Fisher Post of the American Legion.

## THE OLD CEMETERY ON NORTH FINDLEY ST.

The cemetery on North Findley Street is one of the oldest in the vicinity. It is not known, exactly, when this cemetery was first established, or who donated the land. The first adult who was buried there was Hugh McKee. This burial took place in 1821. The cemetery was originally in Perry Township, until the borough line was extended.

Soldiers from the last five wars are buried there. Following are lists of Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War veterans who are buried in the Old Cemetery:

Revolutionary War—Hugh McKee, Samuel Newcome, Wm. Scott Perry, James Shields and Borthol Stump.

War of 1812—Samuel Bowers, John Hamm, John Hunt, Joseph Long, Hugh McKee, John North, John White.

Civil War—W. J. Blair, P. M. Bortz, David Barnett, John F. Bell, Charles M. Brewer, James M. Brewer, John M. Brewer, David Burkett, F. Y. Caldwell, W. M. Campbell, William R. Depp, John Hastings, Alex G. Hughes, Elija Keller, E. H. Little, G. M. Long, Joseph Long, James Lowry, J. G. McQuown, Ephriam Myers, John K. North, Charles Reese, Dallas Rishel, William Salsgiver, Henry Shaffer, James O. Spencer, John Stonebreaker, T. W. Stoops, Charles Trippiser, John N. Weaver.

The G.A.R. Post was named after Civil War veteran, Capt. E. H. Little, who is buried in this cemetery. At one time, the Spanish War Veterans had an association here. Their post was named for Herman Hughes who died in Cuba in the Spanish American War, and who is also buried in the Old Cemetery.

Up until last year services were held here on each Armistice Day.

Below is proof that even long ago, civic-minded people made attempts to keep our cemeteries in good condition. The following are articles from our early newspaper, *The Punxsutawney Plaindealer*, which proves this point:

Sept. 9, 1869—"You go, friends, occasionally to visit the place where your departed friends repose; and you step with religious care, lest you be found to tread on the sacred ashes. And you do well. Sacred to the dead, dear to you in life and whose memories you still cherish, is the spot set apart for their resting place. But are you aware that for more than three months the cemetery has been open to the range of beasts of every description; that the graves are being plowed by swine, and trodden on by cattle? We are aware that what is everybody's



business is nobody's business; but let some one interested constitute himself a committee, if of but one, and the injury can be easily and speedily redressed. Permit us to chronicle in the next issue, a fence around the grave-yard."

Sept. 16, 1869—"We are requested to state that posts for repairing the fence around the cemetery, will be on the grounds a week from Saturday next; a gentleman having kindly volunteered to contribute that much toward making the necessary repairs. He wishes our citizens to turn out on that day and put them up. We hope it will be attended to."

June 2, 1870—"Although our citizens did not in any way observe Monday last Decoration Day—the little girls of our town, more patriotic than the rest, made a number of wreaths and bouquets of beautiful spring flowers, and in the afternoon, forming in procession, they marched to the cemetery, and decorated the grave of each soldier buried there. All honor to those who, when all others had forgotten, failed not to show this fitting tribute to the memory of our nation's glorious dead."

May 4, 1871—"Our cemetery appears beautiful in its brightest spring dress and is visited by many people daily."—Exchange.

"Would that we could say the same. Our cemetery is shamefully neglected. Fence around it all down, graves tramped, and instead of people visiting it, cattle and hogs daily roam through it. Oh, shame! Where is thy blush."

During the depression, because the Old Cemetery had not been kept in good condition, the W.P.A. workers built the present wall around it and also the lower section of steps.

Then on October 7, 1946, another attempt was made to restore the Old Cemetery. The following is a portion of an article which appeared in the *Punxsutawney Spirit*:

"A project calling for restoration of the Old Cemetery on North Findley Street, which has been neglected for years, won the approval of borough council last night during its October meeting in the municipal building.

"Representatives of the Punxsutawney Garden Club, originator of the project, appeared before the body last night and asked councilmanic support in restoring the cemetery to its former state. Mrs. James McLeavy, chairman of the Garden Club committee that is in charge of the project, pointed out that approximately 40 veterans of former wars and many Punxsutawney pioneer natives are buried in the cemetery, which is in dire need of attention. Mrs. John Lippert, president of the Garden Club, outlined generally the aims of the project and suggested that service and civic clubs and patriotic organizations of the city be asked to lend their assistance.

"After council had pledged its cooperation, President Arthur Kromer announced he would appoint a committee from council to meet with representatives of various organizations to formulate plans for restoring the cemetery."

"Then started the work of restoring the Old Cemetery. The Garden Club, with the help of Boy Scouts: Rober Alexis, Thomas Barkley, James Beatty, Bill Braughler, Robert Mitchell and James White, worked diligently that fall and last year.

## THE REFORMED CHURCH CEMETERY

The Reformed Church Cemetery was begun 110 years ago when the first log Reformed Church was erected in 1839. When the new church was to be constructed, about 1922, on the corner of Graffius and Orchard Avenues, the site of the old cemetery, legal proceedings for moving the cemetery were taken to court and threshed out. After the problem of moving the dead was settled, the bodies were carried to a lot beside the church. When the bodies were first taken out, the graves were covered with white muslin to keep the sight from the public. Some of the relatives of the dead persons took the bodies, when they were dug up, and re-interred them elsewhere in different lots of their own choosing. Reverend Dietrich, then pastor of the church, supervised the removal and replacement of the bodies. Most of the bodies were re-buried in the new cemetery, which is located on Orchard Avenue beside the church: The last interment in the Reformed Church Cemetery was in 1911.

Today only one relative is living of all the dead in the cemetery. Flowers are usually placed every year on the grave by this relative. The cemetery is taken care of by various members of the church.

## SS. PETER AND PAUL'S GREEK CATHOLIC CEMETERY OF ADRIAN

The SS. Peter and Paul's Greek Catholic Cemetery was founded in 1894 during the time of Father John Sabo. The plot of ground, one acre in size, was donated by the R. & P. C. and I. Company of Adrian. Church records show that the first burial, the burial of Mary Taczak, who died on March 2, 1894, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Taczak, took place on March 4, 1894. Father John Sabo officiated. Today, there are, approximately, 475 graves in this cemetery.









# CHAPTER VI

## ORGANIZATIONS

Compiled by MONA BROHM

### CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

#### ADRIAN HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Adrian Hospital was organized in 1929 with Mrs. William F. Smith serving as the first president and Mrs. Joseph P. Benson as secretary. From this first small group which started its service work by sewing and mending hospital linens the organization has grown into the present active membership of 140.

The auxiliary devotes its entire effort to service work for the hospital and during the twenty years of its existence the cumulative result of such effort has been great. Thousands of pieces of linen have been presented to the hospital through the January linen showers sponsored by the group. Income from the annual projects, the Thanksgiving Ball, the Hospital Card Party, and the Fashion Show has been utilized to purchase equipment for practically every section of the hospital. A partial list of equipment would include: furniture for nurses' dining room; electric refrigerators; institution size food mixer; sink in diet kitchen; small food mixer; heavy duty toaster; baby scales; contributions towards purchase of sterilizer and resuscitator; electric sewing machine; stainless steel bedpans and two complete bedpan sterilizers; hospital beds and mattresses; chairs for patients' rooms; window shades for wards; equipment to renovate employes' rest room; metal flatware for patients' trays; replacement of drapes and slipcovers; replacement of kitchen floors. The group is now pledged to completely furnish a two-bed room in the new hospital wing.

In addition to earning money for the purchase of equipment, the auxiliary members have from time to time assisted by working at the hospital at tasks assigned them. During the employe shortage created by World War II, members worked as kitchen helpers and, within the last year, they assisted in reception of hospital visitors.

Baby Day has been sponsored each year by the group as a feature of National Hospital Week. On this day, babies born during the preceding year and their mothers are honored.

Present officers of the group are: Mrs. Frank C. Straitiff, president; Mrs. E. S. Swartz, Jr., vice president; Mrs. George Crissman, Jr., secretary; Mrs. Joseph P. Benson, treasurer; Mrs. John C. Michele, corresponding secretary.—By Mrs. Frank C. Straitiff.

#### AUXILIARY TO THE ELK RUN FIRE CO.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Elk Run Fire Company was organized in 1924 with a charter membership of approximately 20. The purpose is to aid the Fire Company in any manner possible. The auxiliary holds card parties, bingo games, and food sales to raise money, which is used toward the upkeep of the Elk Run Fire Company and the fire fighting

equipment. Also, a business and social meeting is held each month in the fire hall.

At present (1949) there are 49 members in the auxiliary. The current officers are: Mrs. James Kessler, president; Mrs. Rachel Thomas, vice president; Mrs. Richard McQuown, secretary, and Mrs. Dorsey Shepler, treasurer.

#### AUXILIARY TO THE LINDSEY FIRE COMPANY

The Auxiliary to the Lindsey Fire Company was started April 27, 1934, with a membership of eight. The first president was Mrs. Norval Neal. The total enrollment now is 35. The auxiliary meets in the club rooms of the Lindsey Fire Company every third Thursday of the month. In February of 1948 the organization dissolved, but was re-organized in September of the same year. The present officers are: Mrs. Catherine Mitchell, president Mrs. Mae Kromer, vice president; Mrs. Joe Phillips, secretary, and Mrs. Ellen Barnett, treasurer.—(This information was obtained from the secretary, Mrs. Joe Phillips.)

#### BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs was founded in 1919 for the advancement and interest of employed women. The National Federation now has a membership of 120,000 members, distributed throughout 2,000 communities in the 48 states. The club is now internationally federated with members in almost every country on the globe.

The Punxsutawney club was organized in November, 1929, and was the 35th club in Pennsylvania to receive a charter. Miss Elizabeth Crissman was the first president. Since its organization, the Punxsutawney Business and Professional Women's Club has taken an active interest in all civic affairs and has for several years held an active membership in the local Chamber of Commerce.

As a service club it has sponsored many projects, such is buying milk for under-privileged children before this work was taken over by the State, providing glasses for school children and has made substantial contributions to almost every worthwhile project in the community.

At the present time, there are 22 members in the club, which is served by the following officers: Iva J. Bacon, president; Ruth A. Shirley, vice president; Gertrude Shankosky, recording secretary; Esther Whitaker, corresponding secretary, and Mary Jane Fenton, treasurer.

#### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce was originally known as the Business Men's and Merchants' Association. This group was organized in 1908 for the purpose of advancing the commercial, industrial, civic and general interests of Punxsutawney. Until 1927 it did





CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CREW—Left to right: Valorie DeLuca, Lucille Hockin, Jack L. Rishell, Elizabeth D'Orazio, Patricia (Mottern) Wolfe.

not have a paid secretary. In that year, it was decided to enlarge the organization, change its name to the "Chamber of Commerce," and hire a full time secretary.

The records of this organization were destroyed in the 1936 flood. The present Chamber of Commerce was incorporated in June, 1927. The first president of the Chamber of Commerce was Arthur G. Rosenthal, and the first secretary was Thomas C. Carrington. During this time, the group organized the Community Bank, which made small loans to individuals. This loan association was finally bought by the Punxsutawney National Bank. The Merchants' Association office was originally in the Beyer Building, and in 1928 it was moved to the present location at 117 N. Findley Street.

In recent years the Chamber of Commerce has purchased or erected six or eight buildings, and induced several companies that are profitable to the community, to locate in Punxsutawney. All persons residing within the borough limits are eligible for resident membership. Persons not residing in Punxsutawney are eligible for non-resident membership. At the present time the organization has 159 members. Plans for the Centennial Celebration were made in the Chamber of Commerce rooms. The organization has given aid in promoting the flood control program, and is planning to restore the air-mail pick-up service in Punxsutawney. The body holds its meetings once a month in its own rooms. The local Chamber of Commerce is affiliated with the Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. The Punxsutawney Credit Bureau is affiliated with this organization. All the records of the Credit Bureau were also destroyed in the flood of 1936. No information is available as to when it was formed or by whom. The present officers are: Benjamin Levy, president; J. L. Rainbow, vice president; E. S. Fry, second vice president; W. R. Chilcott, treasurer; secretary, Jack L. Rishell.

### GARDEN CLUB

The Punxsutawney Garden Club was organized April 4, 1933, with a limited membership of 50 women interested in gardening.

The object of this club is the advancement of gardening, the developing of home grounds and the furthering of city and highway beautification, and aiding in the protection of forests, wild flowers and birds.

The first president of the club was Mrs. L. S. North; vice president, Mrs. W. B. Hampson; secretary, Mrs. J. C. McLeavy; treasurer, Mrs. Walter Fries.

Annual flower shows which were open to the public of both town and country were given for several years in vacant storerooms and church basements, and many private shows in the homes of the members for members only.

In 1940 the Garden Club joined the Punxsutawney Farm Show, and held annual exhibits until the war years prevented these shows.

Among the projects which the Garden Club sponsored were the landscaping of the Adrian Hospital grounds, the planting of roadsides with evergreens and roses, the planting of five thousand pine trees in Mitchell Park, the planting of evergreens and tulips in Barclay Square—Theo Diamond, George West, and the pupils of the seventh and eighth grades gave great help with the planting of Mitchell Park.

The present project of the club is the restoration of "The Old Cemetery" on North Findley Street. Last year the grounds were thoroughly cleaned, dead trees removed and other trees trimmed, and most of the markers re-set in cement, grass planted, drains and steps built to stop erosion. The club expects to continue this work in conjunction with borough officers.

The present (1949) officers are: Mrs. Robert Ma-teer, president; Mrs. Clair Morris, vice president; Mrs. Clair Tyger, secretary; Mrs. Royden McMinn, treasurer, and Mrs. D. R. Thomas, corresponding secretary.—By Mrs. Charles St. Clair.

### THE GRANDMOTHERS' CLUB

The National Grandmothers' Club, which was formed on June 13, 1934, at a meeting of the Business and Professional Women's Club, has its home in Medina, N. Y. The club's first president was a Mrs. Gray, who has been followed by such famous women as Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the late President. It is interesting to note that Mrs. Bea Good, who is now (1949) the national president, is a former resident of Punxsutawney.

The Grandmother's Club of Punxsutawney, which was organized November 3, 1941, began with 15 charter members and has now increased its membership to 40 women. These grandmothers, who hold their meetings in the Y.M.C.A. on the fourth Monday of the month, are proud of their colors, gold and brown, and their flower, the chrysanthemum, which is symbolic of autumn. Their emblem is a small gold pin with a "Luccia Della Robbia" bambino in the center. Of course great-grandmothers are "special" and they wear a guard chain with a star attached in addition to the regular pin. The Punxsutawney club gave many bonds to the hospital to help buy urgently needed supplies during the war.

The officers of the club are: Mrs. H. O. Freas, president; Mrs. Lou Miller, secretary; Mrs. Merle Curry, treasurer.

### THE IRVING CLUB OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

One of the oldest, if not the oldest, women's literary club in Western Pennsylvania is the Irving Club of Punxsutawney. This club, limited to 25 members, has met weekly or bi-monthly during the fall and winter for 54 consecutive years.



The idea for the Irving Club originated with Mrs. Ada R. Mundorff and the first meeting was held on November 1, 1895, at the home of Manie E. Mitchell, a daughter of Associate Judge James E. Mitchell. The new club did not then have a name and the 15 Punxsutawney women who met that evening did so for the purpose of planning the town's first "literary study club." A constitution and by-laws were adopted that evening and a committee was appointed to choose a name and motto for the organization. The 15 Punxsutawney women who signed the club's constitution that evening are here listed in the order of their signing: Ada R. Mundorff, Anna A. Young, Laura Robinson, Emma M. Weber, Martha C. Davis, Leot C. Brown, Adah W. Brown, Clara Fulton Smith, Martha A. Winslow, Carrie W. Fisher, Belle Murray, Lillie M. Prothero, Lizzie H. Smith, Nancy M. Ammon and Manie E. Mitchell. Of this group still active in the club at the present time, two remain: Carrie W. Fisher and Lillie M. Prothero.

At the second meeting of the club on November 25, 1895, the name of Washington Irving, the "first American who had won for his country recognition on equal terms in the literary republic" was adopted, and "The Irving Club" came fully into being. The motto chosen was "Neglect Not the Gift That Is Within Thee," and the club colors adopted were (and are) yellow and white. The club began and has continued as a strictly literary and current event discussion group. The banquet held at the end of each year's study is the only meeting at which refreshments are served; guest speakers are usually present at this banquet—in recent years, notably Mrs. Florence Fisher Parry.

The Irving Club is proud of its long history and of the mutual pleasure and enlightenment its members have shared. In the public interest of the people of Punxsutawney, it is responsible for having music introduced in the Punxsutawney public schools, in the years 1902, for having made the first contribution (\$100) toward a public library in Punxsutawney, for starting the first War Bond drive in this community during the first World War, and for providing continued support for the many public endeavors which the club has originated along literary lines.

The Irving Club became a federated women's club in the year 1900. It has perpetuated itself by the election of new members to fill vacancies through the years. The older programs of study, originally typed out by Jacob L. Fisher or Henry K. Mundorff, have long since been superseded by printed programs issued to the members by the program committee in the fall of each new study season.

The future of the Irving Club seems as bright in 1949 as it was in 1895, probably because the members have never, throughout these 54 years, veered from this modest motto: "Neglect Not the Gift That Is Within Thee."

The present (1949) officers are: Miss Mable Monroe, president; Mrs. W. B. Long, vice president; Mrs. Walter Morris, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert L. Hammill, corresponding secretary; Mrs. S. S. Smith, treasurer; Mrs. George L. Glenn and Miss Mary Jane Robinson, critics.—By Mrs. Lillie M. Prothero.

The original townsite of Punxsutawney extended from Front Street to Findley Street and from Farmers Alley to Liberty Street. Just 100 years ago the population of the community was 100.

## THE JEFFERSON-CLARION MOTOR CLUB,

In the year 1904 the Punxsutawney Automobile Club was organized. The founders were Ed A. Murray, Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, E. S. Swartz, Sr., and George L. Glenn. These men along with George C. Brown, J. B. Eberhart, B. W. Young and other local residents composed the board of directors for a great number of years. The first president was Ed A. Murray and these other men were elected to the office of president from time to time up until 1928.

In 1928 the club was approached by a group of men from Brookville, Pa., with the request that this motor club expand to cover all of Jefferson County. At that time George Crissman, Sr., of Punxsutawney, was president. After meeting with these Brookville motorists and through authority from the Pennsylvania Motor Federation in Harrisburg, the club was permitted to expand, being renamed "Jefferson County Motor Club." Shortly after the reorganization, H. A. Osborne, of Brookville, was elected president, serving from 1931 to 1933. Charles S. Lord, of Reynolds-ville, Pa., was president from 1933 to 1934. He was succeeded by Eugene B. Deible, of Reynolds-ville, who served from 1935 to 1937. A. W. McClure, of Reynolds-ville, was elected president in 1937 and has served faithfully up to the present date.

In July 1938 additional territory was added to the club—Clarion County was added and the name changed to Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club. In 1939 Forest County was added to the club's territory. However, the name Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club was retained.

At the time A. W. McClure was elected president in 1937, Jay H. Freas, of Punxsutawney, was elected secretary, and Meigs C. Barrett, of Brookville, was appointed salesman for the club. At that time Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club had a total of 312 members and through the efforts of these two men along with a splendid board of directors, the club's membership on January 1, 1949, totaled 3,103 members.

In 1938 Meigs C. Barrett was named sales manager and up until 1938 and for a period of about five years prior the Motor Club was associated with the Punxsutawney Board of Trade, now known as the Punxsutawney Chamber of Commerce. The secretary of this organization was usually employed as a secretary for both the Chamber of Commerce and the Motor Club. This arrangement was changed when Miss Elizabeth D'Orazio was employed as office secretary in Punxsutawney and the club opened its branch office in Brookville, under the direction of Sales Manager Meigs C. Barrett, whose title was then changed to that of manager.

This club sponsored what was known as Pennsylvania Laurel Festival during the month of June 1936. This festival included laurel tours conducted throughout different parts of the county when the laurel was in full bloom. The first festival was held in Brookville, with Cook Forest as a background. An elaborate parade was held in Brookville and a Laurel Queen was chosen by votes through purchase of merchandise through the cooperation of merchants in Punxsutawney, Brookville, and Reynolds-ville. Miss Ethel Ellenberger, of Punxsutawney, was crowned Laurel Queen by Governor George Earle. Miss Ellenberger was presented with a Pontiac convertible coupe as a gift. The Laurel Festival committee comprised of most



of the directors of the Motor Club of Brookville, raised approximately \$14,000 which was used to defray the expenses of the carnival. These funds were used for prizes, for the best floats and bands in the parade. It is estimated that more than 25,000 visitors attended the festival and laurel displays.

In 1937 this festival was repeated. It was held in Punxsutawney, and the main event was a pageant under the direction of Lloyd E. Morgan, at that time physical director of the Punxsutawney Central Y.M.C.A. This pageant was staged at the Harmon Playground here and the cast was selected from every community in Jefferson County. A Laurel Queen was chosen during the festival. Miss Margaret Gargin was chosen queen and was presented with a cash gift.

In 1938 the Motor Club again sponsored the Pennsylvania Laurel Festival and again Mr. Morgan was the director of the pageant staged in Cook Forest and again he trained the cast comprised of talent picked throughout the counties of Jefferson and Clarion. Miss Forest Cook of Cook Forest was chosen Laurel Queen and was awarded a cash gift.

In 1939 the festival was staged in Clear Creek Park during the week of July 21 to 25. It consisted of vesper services, a community picnic and laurel tours which were conducted throughout the county wherever laurel was in abundance.

These festivals were discontinued throughout the war years but thousands of visitors come to this county each year to witness the display of laurel and rhododendron.

Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club is a civic organization, non-profit, and renders services to its members such as emergency road service, towing, tire and battery changing, and it benefits its members with a personal accident service and bail bond.

During the year 1948 this club paid out over \$4,000 for emergency road service and towing, and \$5,000 for personal accident benefits. The personal accident policy provided for members includes 21 days of hospitalization, x-rays, 10 weeks of disability and \$5,000 bail bond certificate is available where a member is involved in an accident and is required to post bond.

The Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club sponsors a safety program in the schools. It furnished thousands of posters, graded lessons to the schools of Jefferson, Clarion and Forest Counties each month. It also sponsors the School Boy Safety Patrol throughout the three counties and furnishes free of charge for these patrols, Sam Browne belts, badges, membership cards and certificates of merit. During the year of 1948 the club has also added the sponsorship of a driver training course in high schools. At the present time these driver training courses are being operated in the high schools of Brookville, Clarion, Tionesta, and Marienville. Many of the other high schools throughout the three counties in the territory will add this course during the coming school year. The training cars used by the high schools are secured through the Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club.

Jefferson-Clarion Motor Club is affiliated with the American Automobile Association, Washington, D. C., and the Pennsylvania Motor Federation, Harrisburg, Pa.

Forty-seven directors throughout three counties—Jefferson, Clarion and Forest—comprise the board of directors.

The officers and local directors are: A. W. McClure, president; Meigs C. Barertt, secretary-manager; S. K. Murray, treasurer. Sid Carlton, Jay H. Freas, Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, S. K. Murray, M. D. Rentschler and Noah M. Treharne, directors.

## JENKS HILL PARENT-TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Miss Aura Law, then principal of the Jenks Hill School, was the inspiration for the Jenks Hill P.T.A., and it was through her interest that it was organized on May 16, 1939, with the help of the Woman's Club. The first officers elected were: Dr. M. C. Hurd, president; Mrs. Jean White, first vice president; Mrs. C. H. Wilson, second vice president; Mrs. J. R. Meyers, secretary, and Mrs. Robert Mateer, treasurer.

Realizing the importance of diet in the matter of health, the Jenks Hill P.T.A., encouraged by Miss Law, sponsored the serving of hot, balanced lunches to the school children in 1940. The members of the P.T.A. were aided in this project by various groups and individuals of the community. The American Legion donated \$100 for the purchase of necessary equipment, the school board outfitted the kitchens, and Fred Chambers contributed a stove. The initial cost of the lunches to the students was 25 cents a week. During World War II interested fathers and mothers planted victory gardens and canned vegetables and fruit to be used as food for the boys and girls of the Jenks Hill School. Also in 1940 the P.T.A. provided raincoats for the Safety Patrol.

At present (1949) the first vice president, Mrs. Joseph Stiver, is acting as president of the organization. The other officers are: Mrs. Anthony Barletta, second vice president; Mrs. Raymond Shaw, secretary, and Mrs. Clarence Ward, treasurer.

## JOHN W. JENKS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The John W. Jenks Memorial Foundation of Punxsutawney, Pa., was organized in 1945. This foundation is operated by a board of seven trustees. At the present time (1949) the officers of the board are: John G. Kelly, president; George B. Grube, secretary, and J. Boyd Hunger, treasurer.

This organization owns the Masonic Temple located at the corner of Mahoning and Jefferson Streets. The members administer the trust fund, and the amount remaining from operating costs is donated to worthy causes such as the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Adrian Hospital, and the Y.M.C.A.

## THE KIWANIS CLUB

The Punxsutawney Kiwanis Club was chartered June 6, 1922, with twenty members. The first officers were: Harvey G. Bowers, president; Dr. Kenneth G. Lenhart, vice president; Sidney S. Smith, secretary; Jay H. Freas, financial secretary; and P. L. Brown, treasurer. Of the present 36 members, only four are charter members: Jay H. Freas, J. Freas Jones, Dr. Kenneth G. Lenhart and Arthur G. Rosenthal.

The Kiwanis Club has endeavored to live up to its motto, "We Build." It financed the gift of Harmon Field to the residents of Punxsutawney with a donation of \$5,000. It assisted, in a large measure, in the purchase of the fair grounds as a site for the armory. The club purchased the uniforms for the



first Punxsutawney High School football team. Recently, it assisted in the construction of a girls' shower and locker room in the Y.M.C.A. The various athletic teams of P.H.S. have been entertained annually at dinners held in conjunction with the other service clubs. The Kiwanis Club has sponsored an annual "Railroad Night" to which officials of the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads have been invited. It has sponsored county farm agent work in the potato clubs and 4-H Capon Club, and annual dinner and awards having been given the latter club. Its interest in the underprivileged children of the community has been shown by providing them with glasses, camp trips, and surgical operations.

To make these projects possible, the Kiwanis Club has held numerous bazaars, rummage sales, home talent shows, dances, horse shows, and inter-club baseball and softball games. More recently, "Headin' Hollywood," "Ridin' High," a paper drive, and donkey baseball and basketball games were the sources of revenue.

The present officers are: Jennings B. Beam, president; J. L. Rainbow, vice president; Nelson H. Boyd, treasurer; Robert Hetrick, financial secretary, and J. Brady Marble, secretary.

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY OF THE Y.M.C.A.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. of Punxsutawney, Pa., was organized about 1898. The meetings were held first in the Snyder building (located at 105 West Mahoning Street) and then in the Fackiner building (located at 103 South Findley Street where the Lavender Beauty Shop operates) as there was no Y.M.C.A. building at that time. The work of the auxiliary was much the same as it is now. The members served meals for special board meetings and assisted in many drives by selling food and serving meals to groups.

Since many of the records of the auxiliary were lost or mislaid during the recent re-organization of Y.M.C.A., there is no complete list of officers. However, this much is known. About 1904, Mrs. Albert Gray was president of the auxiliary, and she was followed by Mrs. Joe Wililams and Mrs. O. C. Sherman. Next came Mrs. R. C. Gourley, who served as president during World War I. At this time, dishes and silverware, which are still in use, were selected and purchased by Mrs. Gourley. Mrs. M. D. Cutler held the office of treasurer from 1918 to 1944. Mrs. Harlan Jordan served as president following Mrs. Gourley until 1930, when Mrs. George Crissman, who served until 1944, became president. After losing an excellent Y.M.C.A. secretary, Vesper Smith, to the armed forces, a lack of available "Y" secretaries caused the Y.M.C.A. board to turn the entire management of the Y.M.C.A. over to the very capable physical director, Lloyd Morgan. At the same time the Y.M.C.A. Auxiliary because of rationing and war shortages, was rendered inactive. However, in September 1946 the auxiliary was re-organized with the help of Mrs. J. B. Marble, wife of the present Y.M.C.A. secretary. At present (1949) the officers of the Auxiliary are: Mrs. R. C. McMinn, president; Mrs. J. B. Marble, vice president; Mrs. F. D. Pringle, secretary, and Mrs. Walter Lloyd, treasurer.

Last year the auxiliary supervised playgrounds in various sections of town and assisted in instituting a Y.M.C.A. "Family Night," which gives the public an

opportunity to inspect the building and the work going on within it. At present the auxiliary is sponsoring a campaign for funds to purchase a television set for the Y.M.C.A.

#### THE LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was formally chartered on February 22, 1945, in the Army and Navy Club rooms, with over 300 people in attendance. The charter members were: M. R. Tibby, president; W. H. Hampton, Franklin Oelschlager and J. Merrill Stockdale, vice president; Lester H. Morgan, secretary; C. L. Humm, treasurer; Philip R. Kester, lion tamer; Joseph Crissman, tail twister; Clark B. McLaughlin, Eugene Fry, Harry Brickell and Chester Bundy, directors; and Amund F. Amundson, Jr., Noble V. Fritz, William J. Gaffney, Mark Hazlett, John M. Kernag, Theodore M. Kurtz, Jr., Arthur E. Kromer, Dr. Howard McCall, J. Roy Meneely, Dr. Howard Newcome, George E. West, Gilbert E. Murray, and Reverend M. N. George. There are now (1949) 68 active members.

The purpose of this service club is to promote community betterment and to assist in those programs that would lead to better understanding among the peoples of our borough. The members have certainly lived up to this purpose and to the club motto, "Liberty—Intelligence—Our Nation's Safety." They established the Dr. Howard Newcome Blood Bank, through which over 112 pints of blood have been given, without charge, by the members to those in need. The Lions Club was among the first organizations to recognize the need of a Community Chest, and on October 25, 1945, they invited W. E. Yeager, of Warren, Pa., to attend a special meeting to describe the functions of a chest. The club has shipped more than 2,000 magazines and 20,855 garments overseas. Believing in safety, this organization purchased "safety book covers" for the public and parochial schools. Each Christmas season since 1946, the Lions Club has presented a Christmas program. It has also sponsored the bringing of Santa Claus to town, and has given out more than 3,000 treats annually to the youngsters of our community and vicinity. More than forty pairs of glasses have been purchased along with clothing, shoes, and other necessities of life to aid needy children. Air shows, merchant marts, theatrical presentations have all been a public service of the club. However, the most outstanding endeavor of the club was the organization of "The Little Leo Corporation."

The past presidents of the Lions Club are: M. R. Tibby, W. H. Hampton, Philip Kester, Frank Harl, and John Ashenfelter.

#### LITTLE LEO CLUB, INCORPORATED

During the month of April, 1946, while searching for a club project, the Lions Club, under the direction of Lion Harry Brickell, invited representation of the Indiana Lions Club to a meeting to discuss the possibilities of the club sponsoring a Children's Health Camp and Community Park. The "idea" seemed feasible and a committee of Lions Galbraith, McLaughlin and Hampton was appointed to find a suitable land site.

Through the generosity of M. C. Eberhart, 243 acres were made available at a most reasonable cost; this



land is located 4.5 miles from Punxsutawney off Route 119 and within 1 mile of Big Run on Rock Run. With the purchase of this property Morris & Morris, attorneys at law representing the Lions Club, were requested to incorporate the entire venture under the name of "Little Leo Corporation."

In the corporation the active members of the Lions Club hold and control the voting power and they are known as Class A members. Those individuals, not Lions, desiring to assist the program, are non-voting Class B members.

Lions Francis Wehrle, chairman; Robb, Galbraith, Bundy, Hampton and Humm drew up and approved the constitution and by-laws of the corporation and submitted them to the Lions Club for approval. On June 20, 1947, this appointed committee was dissolved and a corporation meeting resulted in the following board of directors: W. H. Hampton, president; C. A. Bundy, secretary; C. L. Humm, treasurer; J. Galbraith, first vice president; E. Fry, 2nd vice president; J. Roy Meneely, Dr. Howard McCall.

Since the conception of this "idea" the corporation has moved steadily forward in its development program. Two race tracks have been prepared, a practice football field is available, baseball diamonds created and a new road cut through the dense trees and underbrush for a distance of over two miles. Along Rock Run a swimming pool 190 x 200 feet has been built. Picnic tables and open fire places have been set out, all for community use.—By C. A. Bundy, secretary.

#### THE PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF SS. COSMAS AND DAMIAN SCHOOL

The Parent-Teacher Association of Saints Cosmas and Damian School was organized on November 4, 1942, with a membership of 48 mothers of school-age children.

When we were called upon to meet in the high school auditorium for the purpose of organizing a Parent-Teacher Association, we had no idea as to what it could possibly mean to us or what we may be called upon to do.

Father Turner, pastor of Saints Cosmas and Damian parish, presided at this first meeting and explained to us our duties and obligation to the school, teachers, children and to ourselves.

The first officers were: Mrs. Madelyn Wehrle, president; Mrs. Lucille Guthrie, vice president; Mrs. Kathryn Trunzo, secretary, and Mrs. Helen Hogan, treasurer. Sister Mary Fidelis, one of the first graduates of the school and a daughter of the late D. J. O'Connor and Mrs. D. J. O'Connor, of this city, was principal of the school, and was appointed honorary president of the organization. Father Turner was, of course, the temporal, as well as the spiritual advisor.

In May, 1943, Mrs. Helen Puchner, assisted by a specially elected committee, drew up a constitution and by-laws, which were approved and accepted in September, 1943. Miss Bertha Beyer, the school nurse, gave an outline of her work in the school, especially in the prevention and spread of children's communicable diseases. She explained that with our cooperation, we could keep them under control, which, we feel certain, we have done very satisfactorily.

The Parent-Teacher Association is the means of bringing the teachers, mothers and children in close

contact with each other and also keeps the parents informed on the progress of the children.

Our organization participates in many of the school's activities as—preparing and serving First Friday Communion breakfast, sponsoring basketball parties, and chaperoning school dances. It also defrays one-third of the cost of the Christmas treat, which the children really enjoy.

In a period of six months our newly organized group of 48 mounted to 200.

The present officers are: Mrs. Madelyn Wehrle, president; Mrs. Mary Fleckenstein, first vice president; Mrs. Mary Bloom, second vice president; Mrs. Olga Sisk, recording secretary; Mrs. Gertrude Quinlisk, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Frances Quinlisk, treasurer.—By Mrs. Ellen Barnett.

#### PROGRESSIVE STUDY CLUB

A group of young women of Punxsutawney, at the instance of Mrs. John Murray, organized and federated in 1929 a literary club known as The Progressive Study Club. The object of the club is cultural and literary. The membership is limited to 30 members and meetings are held in the homes. Regular meetings are held on the first and third Mondays from October until May. A Christmas party and annual banquet complete the schedule.

Although this club is primarily for self-improvement, the members contribute to civic projects and maintain one outstanding project of their own. This is the "Nurses' Scholarship." A worthy girl is selected by appreciation and competitive examination, and sent to Bradford General Hospital for the 3-year course, all expenses paid by the Study Club. At the end of her training she is given three years to repay the loan, thus enabling the plan to be perpetuated. Miss Dorothy Doupman was the first selection and the present student is Miss Frances Smith. In instituting this project the Study Club was aided financially by other local clubs and organizations.

The Progressive Study Club is now in its 20th successful year.—By Mrs. Howard McCall.

#### ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club, which is Punxsutawney's oldest service club, was organized in the year 1921. The idea of a Rotary Club was first conceived in the office of George Glenn where Mr. Glenn, Frank S. Jackson, Dr. F. D. Pringle, and Russell Sheldon were told about the Rotary organization by Ray Moore. These men worked diligently and on April 1, 1921, they held their first meeting as charter members of the Rotary International. Robert Blakesless, Bert Lowe, of DuBois, and Bert H. Smyers and Anthony W. Smith, of Pittsburgh, also were instrumental in the organization of the club. The first officers of the club were: Dr. F. D. Pringle, president; Walter Morris, secretary, and Russell Sheldon, treasurer. The original membership of 24 has increased to 51. The charter members of the organization were: Frank Becker, George C. Brown, Robert W. Criss, W. R. Cole, Guy C. Cleaver, O. B. Depp, J. B. Eberhart, George Glenn, S. C. Goheen, C. B. Gleckler, Frank S. Jackson, Fenton McAfee, Walter Morris, Lee S. North, James Phelan, Dr. Joseph L. Robinson, Edwin W. Robinson, E. S. Swartz, Russell Sheldon, William C. Tibby, Dr. F. D. Pringle, A. B. White, Eugene Winslow, and P. L. Smith.



Of the above members, all but three have either passed away or are now inactive in Punxsutawney's Rotary Club. These three are George C. Brown, Walter Morris and P. L. Smith.

Throughout the years that the Rotary Club has existed in Punxsutawney, it has been of great benefit and credit to the community.

The present officers are: John Cole, president; Royden McMinn, vice president; Ned Winslow, secretary, and Russell Parsons, treasurer.

### THE SAFETY COUNCIL

The Safety Council of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was organized in the fall of 1948 with a membership of 16. The purpose is to promote safety in the home, street, and industry. The council hopes to accomplish these aims by asking cooperation through the schools, putting up posters, presenting motion pictures, and by other means of publicity to accent caution.

The present (1949) officers of the Safety Council are: John Galbraith, president; Herbert B. Hoyt, vice president; Clarence F. Whitesell, secretary, and Robert M. Gay, treasurer.

### THE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

One of the most commendable organizations in Punxsutawney is the Sportsmen's Club. Since its establishment in 1930, it has taken measures to preserve wild life and natural resources in this area. One of its completed projects is the Sportsmen's Park near Corry's Roundtop. In this park are picnic tables, stone fireplaces, two rifle ranges, and a dam covering one acre. The cost of the dam alone is estimated at over \$1,100. Swimming and ice skating are sports which can be enjoyed there.

The Sportsmen's Club aids wild life in the winter by scattering grain by hand or from airplanes. Other projects are: stocking fish in area streams, stocking wild turkey, pheasants, and rabbits, and sponsoring fox hunts to rid the area of this rascal that preys on smaller animals. A large dog training area is another possession of the club.

From a modest beginning of 15 members the club has grown (1949) to a membership of 1550.

Frank Harl, prominent local merchant is and has been president for 18 of the 19 years of the club's existence. The other officers are: Emory Bush, vice president; Glenn Ellenberger, secretary, and Scott Snyder treasurer.

### THE SPORTSMAN'S RIFLE CLUB

This club, which was organized shortly after World War I and was known as the Cloe Rifle Club, was chartered by the National Rifle Association. The first secretary was Glenn H. Ellenberger, currently secretary of the Sportsmen's Club. He was succeeded by James McConnell, who has served as secretary for 20 years. In 1949 Charles T. Shankosky and Joseph J. Wineberg were elected secretary and president, respectively. The club has competed with nearby towns and the National Guard. In 1937 and 1938 the club entered a .30 caliber rifle team in the state matches at Indiantown Gap. There Kephart, Abbey, Hoyt, McConnell, Carci and Carsada qualified for the national matches at Camp Perry. In 1948 the charter

was changed to read the Sportsmen's Rifle Club. The senior club has 75 members.

In 1948 a Junior Rifle Club, with 50 members, was organized. The purpose of this training is first, national defense; second, safety in handling firearms; and third, teaching good sportsmanship, fair play, self control, and coordination of mind and eyes. All members of the Junior Rifle Club are between the ages of 10 and 18. The first officers, who were elected in 1948, are: Robert Jasulavich, president; Joseph Hazlett, vice president; Connell Weiss, secretary, and Eleanor Depp, treasurer. A fine 50-yard range for small bore rifles with 50 targets has been built at Sportsmen's Park. A 300-yard range for .30 caliber rifles will be built in the summer of 1949.

### WEST END PARENT-TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The West End P.T.A. was organized October 29, 1946, with a membership of 57. The first officers were: Mrs. Joseph Crissman, president; Mrs. M. Means, first vice president; Mrs. V. Crawford, second vice president; Mrs. Burrell, secretary, and Mrs. Royd Brewer, treasurer.

The purpose of the organization is to strengthen the relationship between parents and teachers and to promote the welfare of the children. The meetings are held every third Thursday in the West End School. The officers are: Mrs. John Robertson, president; Mrs. Robert Gay, first vice president; Miss Mildred Krider, second vice president; Mrs. Ralph Couser, secretary, and Mrs. Royd Brewer, treasurer.

### THE WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club was established in 1924 for the purpose of creating and maintaining an organized center of thought and action among the women of the community. The first officers of the club were: Mrs. L. L. Strock, president; Mrs. Lee S. North, first vice president; Mrs. J. N. Doncaster, second vice president; Mrs. Thomas Jenkins, third vice president; Mrs. Howard A. Ley, recording secretary; Mrs. Clark McLaughlin, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Ray Chilcott, critic; Mrs. Arthur Fries, treasurer.

The Woman's Club, besides having educational programs for club members, has held meetings open to the public and has presented speakers such as Mrs. Pennypacker, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Mary Denman, state and county officers and social workers. Another educational project was the "Book Fair," held several years ago in connection with the public library. Fine exhibits of books, works of art, and antiques were displayed and programs given. The club has also given books to the library and schools, provided a traveling library for the use of country schools, and aided in work for the blind. For several years the Woman's Club sponsored and conducted the Red Cross drives, handled the Children's Aid work, supported a county child in a children's home in Erie, and provided glasses for needy children. At the present time (1949) the club is sponsoring the Cancer drive for the county and making afghans for veterans' hospitals. In addition, the members have placed a drinking fountain in Barclay Square, furnished a hospital room, sponsored a Girl Scout troop, sponsored the first P.T.A. meeting, given prizes for essay contests, provided food and toys for needy children



at Christmas, started the Groundhog Canteen (for which all clubs and churches contributed), and helped with nurses' scholarships. They have also responded to appeals from local or national organizations such as the Y.M.C.A., Scouts, Tuberculosis Society, and many others.

The Garden Unit of the Woman's Club not only encouraged its own members of beautiful their grounds, but gave seeds to school children, helped judge their shows, and did highway planting. The unit also gave prizes to school children to interest them in bird conservation.

The club is a member of both County and State Federations of Women's Clubs and has always supported projects of these organizations, such as purchase of Heart's Content (a part of Allegheny National Forest), support of social legislation, and school improvement measures. Three members of the club have served as county federation presidents. The present president is Mrs. O. D. Weber.

For many years the club has had a glee club which not only has provided music for the meetings, but has entertained hospital patients and the old folks at the Memorial Home in Brookville.

The past presidents follow: 1924-26, Mrs. Linus L. Strock; 1926-28, Mrs. Charles St. Clair; 1928-29, Mrs. J. A. Lyon; 1929-31, Mrs. F. D. Pringle; 1931-32, Mrs. J. G. Nolph; 1932-35, Mrs. R. J. Bowers; 1935-37, Mrs. Lucille Hulme; 1937-39, Mrs. J. M. Harvey; 1939-40, Mrs. Joseph Kane, Mrs. Bruce Kocher; 1940-42, Mrs. Earl Brennan; 1942-44, Mrs. Ralph Hargraves; 1944-46, Mrs. Henry Woods; 1948, Mrs. O. D. Weber.

Past presidents who have been county presidents: Mrs. Charles St. Clair, Mrs. F. D. Pringle, Mrs. Ralph Hargraves, now serving.

The present (1949) officers are: Mrs. O. D. Weber, president; Mrs. Charles Otto, Jr., vice president; Mrs. Fred Thomas, second vice president; Mrs. Howard Jones, recording secretary; Mrs. Ralph Gall, corresponding secretary; Mrs. D. R. Thomas, treasurer; Mrs. H. C. Humke, critic.



The Elks Home

## FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

### ALPHA CHAPTER OF PHI ZETA CHI

The Alpha Chapter was organized in 1929 in Punxsutawney. The purpose of the sorority is: "The cultivation of Christian ideals and attainments of Christian character and personality, and the realization of a high type of young womanhood in social, physical, mental and spiritual development."

The first president of this chapter was Frances Pringle and the other officers were: Hannah Amundson Cunningham, Esther VanBrunt Gibbons, Rose Pugliese Rachini, Josephine D. Sweeney, Thelma Shaw, Maude Straitiff, Genevieve Harvey, Jane Beyer Jenkins, Ellen Furman Crivella, Helen Rishel, Zay Henry Montgomery, Leone Furman Stear, Lois States, Izola Dickey Cavazza, Eleanor Leax Snyder, Ruth Leax, Marie Lindsay. The present officers are: primus, Izola Dickey Cavazza; pro-primus, Virginia Mitchell; tribune, Alice Fetterman; quaestor, Marjorie Williams.

The source of support of the sorority is by fees and dues. They often have dances, card games, and parties to raise money.

The organization meets in the Y.M.C.A. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month except during July and August when they have vacation. As of January, 1949, there were 50 members in this chapter. The sorority holds an annual Christmas Charity Ball each Christmas night.

Any girl who is a high school graduate can join if she is between the ages of 20 and 30 years.

### ANGELINE E. POLLUM COURT NO. 96

Order of the Amaranth, a fraternal, social, and charitable organization, was instituted April 13, 1932, with 96 members enrolled. The present membership is 117. Meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month in the B.P.O.E. lodge rooms at 205 N. Findley Street.

### BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS, LODGE NO. 301

The Elks' Club of Punxsutawney was chartered and formed here in 1895. The lodge is founded upon the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity. It is purely American. The founder of the club in Punxsutawney is not known, but the first secretary was C. H. Ford. The first exalted ruler was H. S. Smith; then followed J. M. Beyer, T. M. Kurtz, Walter S. Brown, and Joseph Wilson. The present exalted ruler is Francis Kohut. Walter S. Brown is the only charter member living now (1949), who is still a member of No. 301.

The first meetings were held in the Hill-Feicht building which is now occupied by the Jordan Furniture Store, 134 East Mahoning Street. Then meetings were held in the Beyer Building which is now Brown's Boot Shop, 106 West Mahoning Street. There they conducted their meetings until about 1915 when they moved to the rooms in the Punxsutawney Na-



tional Bank Building, 116 East Mahoning Street. In 1924 they moved to 205 North Findley Street, its present location.

The Elks Club now has the largest membership since its founding. There are now 628 members.

## THE BETA CHAPTER OF THE PHI ZETA CHI

The Beta Chapter of the Phi Zeta Chi of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was organized in the fall of 1931. It is a service organization whose purpose is to build and further Christian character in young women. The meetings are held on alternate Mondays from September until June 30 in the club room of the local Y.M.C.A.

All the finances of this organization are ear-marked for charity. Until March 1949 when the project was discontinued, the sorority sponsored the Well-Child Clinic, for which the members bought many articles such as nursery chairs, floor covering, lights, steel cabinets, and cubicles to help both the mothers and the nurses. This sorority also makes contributions to the World Youth Fund, the local Y.M.C.A., the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Cancer Fund, and many other worthy causes. At the present time (1949) they are sponsoring a Senior Girl Scout group and are organizing a younger Gradale Club known as the Delta Phi Zeta Chi. The chief money-making project of this organization is the hot dog and pop stand which the members operate during Old Home Week. Other means of raising money consist of benefit card parties, food sales, and a series of old-fashioned square dances.

The present officers of the organization are: Primus, Mrs. Kenneth McIntosh; pro-prima, Mrs. James Murphy; tribune, Mrs. Charles Stoops; and quaestor, Mrs.

Arthur Sweeney. The tribunal officers are Mrs. Carl Newell and Mrs. E. R. McLister.

## THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

The Catholic Daughter of America was founded in 1903 in Utica, New York, by the Knights of Columbus. The beginning of the organization was modest but its progress has been phenomenal. From a membership of 60 in 1903, it has grown to a membership of over 200,000 in 1949, with courts established in 45 states, Panama, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Alaska. In Pennsylvania alone there are 147 courts with a membership of over 25,000. All practical Catholic women who are over 18 years of age and of sound bodily health are eligible for membership.

Court St. Rita, No. 353, of the Catholic Daughters of America of Punxsutawney, was organized on January 26, 1919, through the efforts of Mrs. John Ackerd and Mrs. Daniel B. Lesh, who became the first and second grand regents, respectively. From an original membership of 47, Court St. Rita has grown to a membership of 174. The present officers are: Chaplains, Rev. Francis J. Turner and Rev. James Daily; grand regent, Mrs. Leonard Graff; vice regent, Miss Pauline Meyo; prophetess, Mrs. Paul Wehrle; lecturer, Mrs. Robert Collins; historian, Mrs. Sylvester Test; financial secretary, Mrs. Joseph Erdesky; treasurer, Miss Mary Meyo; monitor, Mrs. Gerald Braund; sentinel, Mrs. Michael Tushim; organist, Mrs. Raymond Maloney; trustees, Mrs. B. J. Fleckensetin, Mrs. Fred Smith, Mrs. Alexander Freceone, Mrs. George Depp, Mrs. Clifford Heeter and Mrs. Charles Stewart; state regent, Mrs. Frances Maher, of Kane.

The aims of the Catholic Daughters of America are the propagation and preservation of their Holy



COURT ST. RITA, CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA—Officers, Past Grand Regents, and Charter Members. First row: Mrs. Raymond Maloney, Mrs. Robert Collins, Mrs. Patrick Curry, Mrs. Daniel O'Connor, Mrs. Thomas Senard, Mrs. John Glynn, Mrs. Nicholas Gorman. Second row: Miss Mary Meyo, Mrs. Michael Tushim, Mrs. Chinto Garzoni, Miss Pauline Meyo, Mrs. Leonard Graff, Mrs. Joseph Erdesky, Mrs. Paul Wehrle, Mrs. Gerald Braund, Mrs. Sylvester Test.



Faith, and the development of patriotism as their name implies; the material, moral, and intellectual development of Catholic womanhood and the protection and well being of Catholic girls. They are also pledged to the dispensation of charity and the furtherance of Catholic charitable projects.

There are no limitations placed upon the scope of activities of the Catholic Daughters of America and their work covers almost every type of social welfare. Each unit maps out its own work, commensurate with the needs of the community, and in particular with the needs of the parish within which the court exists. The touchstones of the order are Unity and Charity, which are effectively presented in an impressive ritualistic service that has the unqualified endorsement of every ecclesiastic who has witnessed its presentation.

The Catholic Daughters of America work to make women strong for God and America. The organization believes that the strength of women is the measure of the strength and ability of democracy. It aspires to build a valiant, vigorous, Christian womanhood whose common aim and corporate fraternity will make it a power for good in America. Throughout all the years of their existence the Catholic Daughters of America have pledged themselves to the furtherance of faith in God as the cornerstone of all liberty, and to the intensification of patriotism as grateful, loyal, devoted Americans.—By Mrs. Chinto A. Garzoni.

## THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS

Groundhog Council No. 612 of the United Commercial Travelers of America was chartered on June 11, 1920, with the following officers serving the council: Senior counselor, Ford W. Wassam; junior counselor, Charles M. Snyder; conductor, Clyde C. Pearce; page, Charles T. Lias; sentinel, Harvey O. Smith; secretary, D. R. Thomas; and chaplain, John H. DeLong.

The United Commercial Travelers of America is a fraternal order which was originally organized for travelling men but which now includes professional and business men. Benefits are given to disabled members, widows and orphans of deceased members, and those members suffering from accidents. The Groundhog Council is active in local civic affairs, contributing to worthy causes and promoting the groundhog legend and the merits of the city whenever possible.

At present (1949) the Groundhog Council has a membership of more than 300. The current officers are: senior counselor, Clarence A. Murray; junior counselor, Joseph Hudock; past counselor, Fred V. Snyder, Sr.; conductor, Joseph D. Weaver; page, Harry A. Weaver; sentinel, Gomer James; chaplain, Joseph M. Williams; and secretary, Clair Humm. The Executive Committee is composed of Arthur McCarthy, chairman; G. Clyde Blose, W. R. Startzell and James C. Williams.

## THE DAMES OF MALTA

The Dames of Malta, a Christian organization founded on the Bible, is the auxiliary organization to the Knights of Malta.

The Punxsutawney chapter was instituted June 22, 1915. The teachings are based on the teachings of St. John, the Baptist. Members are required to live according to the Beatitudes and adapt their lives

to the three great virtues: Justice, Prudence, and Courage. Semi-monthly meetings are held for routine business, and election of officers is held in April and September.

Auxiliary units, composed of a staff of seventeen officers, are called Sisterhoods. The governing body which is called Zenodasia is made up of eighteen sovereign officers. Main officers usually have names which are found in the Bible; such as, Esther, Ruth, and Naomi. The cross, star, and sword are the emblems of the Dames of Malta, while the colors are purple and gold. All members are required to dress in white when attending a regular meeting. White formal gowns are worn on special occasions such as initiations, dedications, installation of officers, and memorial services.

The order maintains an orphans' home in Pittsburgh, which is financed by various sisterhoods and supervised by an efficient staff of workers.

The Punxsutawney chapter donates money to worthy projects, aids the sick and needy, and engages in many social activities, also pays sick and death benefits.

Local charter members living are: Mrs. Mary Curry, Miss Anna F. Black, Mrs. Sara Parsons, Mrs. Florence Graffius, Mrs. Bertha Steitler, Mrs. Nora Stevenson, and Mrs. Naomi Lloyd.

## DELTA CHAPTER OF THE PHI ZETA CHI

The Delta Chapter of the Phi eta Chi was organized in December, 1948. The purpose of the organization is to contribute to worthy causes. The meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month in the club room of the Y.M.C.A. The club now (1949) has a membership of 15 and the officers are: President, Nancy London; vice president, Margaret Lias; secretary, Lois Jean Reid; and treasurer, Jeannine Muscatell.

## ERNST TEMPLE NO 38, PYTHIAN SISTERS

In the beginning there were two ladies' orders composed of relatives of the Knights of Pythias, the Pythian Sisterhood and the Rathbone Sisters, neither being recognized by the Knights as their auxiliary.

Ernst Assembly No. 12 of the Pythian Sisterhood was instituted February 2, 1898, with the following charter members: Mrs. C. G. Ernst, Mrs. T. M. Pantall, Mrs. Hans Olson, Mrs. J. R. Evans, Mrs. T. C. Zeitler, Miss Lottie Turnbull, Miss Bertha Olson, Miss Irene Pantall, Miss Harriet Jones, Mrs. Walter Knarr, Mrs. William Evans, Mrs. George Gillespie, Mrs. Emma Whepley, Miss Effie Reams, Mrs. T. S. Drummond, Mrs. S. A. Rinn, Mrs. J. S. Frazier, and Mrs. P. B. Depp.

None of the above are now members, the majority being deceased. The assembly was named in honor of Dr. Charles G. Ernst, a prominent member of the Punxsutawney Knights of Pythias.

Mrs. C. G. Ernst was the first past chancellor of the order, (having the honor conferred upon her at the institution). She was also the first Keeper of Records and Seal, which office she held for several years.

On October 4th and 5th, 1899, the seventh annual convention of the Grand Assembly, Pythian Sisterhood of the Domain of Pennsylvania, was held in the K. of P. Hall, Punxsutawney, with Ernst Assem-



bly, the youngest assembly—having been instituted only 20 months—being hostess.

In 1903 Mrs. Ernst was elected grand chancellor of the Domain of Pennsylvania, and in her address to the Grand Assembly, after thanking the members for the honor conferred upon her, said her only regret was that her husband was not there to enjoy it with her. Dr. Ernst died June 15, 1902, during his term as grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Pennsylvania.

During Sister Ernst's term as a deputy, she instituted DuBois Assembly No. 13 and Big Run Assembly No. 15. During a membership drive by the Grand Assembly in the year 1902, fifty-three members were initiated into Ernst Assembly.

In April 1907 the orders of Rathbon Sisters and Pythian Sisterhood consolidated and took the name of Pythian Sisters and became the recognized auxiliary of the Knights. At this time the name of the local order became Ernst Temple No. 38 of the Pythian Sisters.

Under the deputyships of Sisters Ernst, Cole, Morgan and Mitchell the Temple assisted with the institution of Winslow, Rathmel, Rossiter, Josephine, Brookville, Morrisdale, Curwensville and Smithport Temples. Of these only DuBois, Big Run, Reynolds-ville and Smithport are still functioning.

December 1, 1933, the Mary M. Morgan Sunshine Girls' Council No. 9, named in honor of Past Grand Chief Morgan, who was also organizer and counselor of the council, was instituted with 19 charter members. It disbanded in December 1937 because most of the girls had reached the age limit and because there were no new applicants.

During the years that the Temple was a beneficial order, several thousands of dollars were paid out in sick and death benefits to members and their families. The past number of years it has been a social order and is steadily increasing in membership. The 51st anniversary was observed February 11, 1949.

The present officers are: past chief, Mabel VanDyke; most excellent chief, Mary Means; excellent senior, Elva Oliver; excellent junior, Ollie Smith; manager, Olive Wolfe; secretary, Violet Jones; treasurer, Cora Cramer; protector, Annie Ansinger; guard, Emily Altman; deputy, Alice Mitchell; trustees, Cecil Depp, Louise Torrence, Marjorie Stewart; captain degree staff, Annie Mooney; assistant captain degree staff, Cecile Depp; press correspondent, Mary Leax; installing officer, Irene Bell; grand representative, Alice Mitchell; alternate grand representative, Irene Bell.

## THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie No. 1231, of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, obtained its charter on February 17, 1906, with a membership roster of 166. The first officers were Charles Feicht, worthy president; Cloy Duff, secretary, and Charles Ratz, treasurer. At that time they met in what was known as the "Old Opera House" building on East Mahoning Street (since burned down). Later they moved to the Charles Costanzo building, and on September



The Eagles Home

1937, they transferred to their newly built home at 238 East Mahoning Street, opposite Barclay Square.

The early programs of the order, which included pioneering for the national social security act, state old-age pensions, mothers' pensions, and workmen's compensation, have been supplemented by other significant social, legislative, and public welfare objectives, which include the extension of social security, child health, youth guidance, and aid for the handicapped. This order is beneficial as well as fraternal. It maintains a Memorial Foundation Fund of over \$3,000,000 for the benefit of children of Eagle fathers who lost their lives in World War II. Aerie No. 1231 gives support to all local drives and civic projects and joins at Christmas time with the B.P.O.E. and the Jefferson Theatre in providing treats and movies for the children of Punxsutawney and vicinity.

The present officers of this organization are: S. R. Fagley, worthy president; Joseph Bianco, worthy vice president; H. L. Sutter, secretary; Carl W. Depp, treasurer; and John B. Barilar, Emory Bush, Gomer G. James, H. L. Sutter, and S. F. White, trustees.

## FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

The John W. Jenks Lodge No. 534, Free and Accepted Masons, was constituted on March 9, 1875, with a charter membership of 26. The first officers were: T. K. Hastings (W.M.), Jacob Zeitler (S.W.), James Shields (J.W.), Joseph Shields (treasurer), James A. Minish (secretary), John Crawford (S.D.), Wm. J. Smith (J.D.), George W. Porter (P), Wm. Altman (S.M.C.), Andrew P. Cox (J.M.C.), James E. Mitchell (chaplain), Adam B. Hoeh (tyler). From the first meeting place in the old Shields' building the lodge headquarters was moved to the Torrence building which has been replaced by a brick structure owned by Jones Brothers. The order then moved to the Odd Fellows' Building on West Mahoning Street and later to the John B. Bair building, now (1949) occupied by the Pennsylvania Electric Company, thence to the former Spirit building (now Rosenthal's); finally to the present location at the corner of East Mahoning and Jefferson Streets, now known as the John W. Jenks Memorial Foundation. It is among



the most up-to-date lodge homes in Western Pennsylvania.

The aim of Free Masonry is to benefit the world in which it functions; the purpose of this purely fraternal organization is to improve relations between man and man, also between nation and nation. A Mason must believe in the existence of a supreme being.

The present (1949) officers of the lodge are: Olney V. Wadding, W. master; Edgar S. Swartz, treasurer; E. Mead Neill, secretary; Charles E. Grinder, S. W.; Leonard T. Staples, Jr. W. The membership, which is now (1949) 412, increases each year.

### THE I. O. O. F.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was first organized in England. In 1819 in Baltimore, Maryland, Thomas Wildey organized the first Odd Fellows Lodge in America. On May 20, 1869, the Laurel Lodge No. 672 of Punxsutawney was instituted and received its charter. The Odd Fellows Hall, located at 225 West Mahoning Street, was erected by Odd Fellows about 1876 and is still owned by the Odd Fellows. The first officers of the Punxsutawney branch were: J. M. Brewer, noble grand; D. S. Altman, vice grand; J. C. Green, secretary; J. P. Drum, recording secretary; and H. Fackiner, treasurer. The present officers are: Harry Forrest, noble grand; Paul Kuntz, vice grand; Emory Schwartz secretary; and David Steffy, treasurer.

The three joined links, the symbol of the I.O.O.F., stand for Friendship, Love and Truth, "F.L.T." The organization is founded upon the eternal principle which recognizes man as a constituent of one universal brotherhood with fidelity, and universal justice. The duties of the members, which are based on these principles, are to "visit the sick, relieve the distressed, care for the aged, educate the orphan, and bury the dead." The Bible is the basis for the I.O.O.F. ritual. However, membership in the lodge is not meant to replace church membership. An Odd Fellow is expected to place his church above his lodge at all times which practice is true of his citizenship and love for his country.

The order maintains several orphanages, the first of which is located in Meadville. "Wayside Inn," a home for the aged, is located in Grove City.

The qualifications necessary to become a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows are, that the applicant must be over 18 years of age, a white male of good moral character, a believer in a Supreme Being, a resident in the state for which he applies for membership, and in good physical condition. Politics and religious beliefs are not debatable in a lodge of this order.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, PUNXSUTAWNEY COUNCIL NO. 452

The Knights of Columbus, a fraternal society of Roman Catholic men, was organized under the special charter granted by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut in 1882.

Father P. J. McGinley, of New Haven, Conn., conceived the idea of gathering together in social harmony a handful of practical Catholic men from his own parish. The possibilities for good by such a group spread until now the Knights of Columbus num-

ber almost 800,000. Executive headquarters are in New Haven and John E. Swift is supreme knight at the present time. James A. Flaherty, known to many people here, filled the position of supreme knight for many years.

The order publishes *Columbia*, a monthly magazine.

They sponsor a junior order for boys known as Circle of Columbian Squires. Their aims and purposes are: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Their hopes of accomplishment (and they have made great strides in that direction) are love through charity, strength through unity, brotherly love through fraternity, and concord through patriotism.

The Knights of Columbus have lately established a national advertising program to counteract misinformation, bigotry and prejudice. They have established scholarships and purses for seminarians and are active in the promotion of elevating literature. They stand for cleanliness of mind, justice, and the aggrandizement of their holy religion.

Institution of the local Council Knights of Columbus No. 452 took place on October 8, 1899, in the Knights of Pythias Hall, Punxsutawney, under the auspices of the following national officers: Edward L. Hearn, supreme knight, and Daniel Colwell, secretary.

The charter members were: John J. Flaherty, W. E. Dayton, T. P. Cavanaugh, W. J. Sexton, M. J. Quinlisk, J. F. Turner, James W. Quinlisk, E. N. Wehrle, D. A. Harris, Rev. H. C. Wienker, John Cummings, J. E. Sheehan, Thomas Donnelly, James Cummings, P. J. Nolan, D. E. Tracey, Joseph Ganley, J. P. Benson, T. P. Burgoon, John Ganley, J. A. Weise, P. J. Dornish, John Downey, John Weber, Terrence Gleason, T. P. McMahon, Michael O'Connor, W. R. Martin, Thomas Lynch, J. A. Calor, Rev. Joseph N. Zubrzycki, Austin O'Connor, D. F. McMahon, Thomas O'Connor, Rev. John B. Deville, James F. Donnelly, Charles McCarthy, P. J. Vetter, Patrick Hannon, and William Murray.

The only member of the group above now residing in Punxsutawney, and one of the only four surviving, is Dr. J. P. Benson.

The council was originally quartered in the Odd Fellows Hall, West End, and the original officers were: Rev. John B. DeVille, grand knight; D. D. Tracey, deputy grand knight; Joseph Ganley, chancellor; John Downey, financial secretary; Sylvester Burgoon, recording secretary; John J. Flaherty, warden; M. J. Quinlisk, treasurer.

The present officers are: Stanton Ragley, grand knight; Leo Johnson, deputy grand knight; Leonard Graff, chancellor; Clark London, financial secretary; Frank DiCello, recording secretary; Guy Bianco, warden; James B. Quinlisk, treasurer; James Dambrosia, inside guard; Ralph Roberts, outside guard.

The local council occupied rooms in the Clark building on Findley Street for many years and in 1925 they purchased the old Winslow home on Pine Street and remodeled it to suit their needs. Because of unforeseen adversities they were forced to relinquish this home in 1938. They have since met in the Rosenthal and Keystone Buildings on Mahoning Street and now hold their meetings in the parochial school auditorium in West End. They meet the first and third Thursdays of each month.

For the 19th Pennsylvania District, Knights of Columbus, Raymond J. Dereume is district deputy.



## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

The Knights of Pythias, Local Number 493, was established in Punxsutawney on December 18, 1883. This order, which was the first fraternal order to receive a charter from the United States government under a special act of Congress, is both a fraternal and benevolent organization whose members are pledged to help each other at all times. The basic principles of the order are friendship, charity, and benevolence; and so our country's flag, and the Bible have important places in its ritual. Because the lodge's idea is to develop a more complete, sympathetic, and responsive brotherhood, it chooses its members without prejudice or preferment. In this organization race, religious, occupation, and profession are forgotten; but the outlaw, the anarchist, bolshevist, and every group that saps the foundation of our government find in the Knights of Pythias a determined foe. It is not religion, but it is Christianity in everyday life.

The order is a great relief corporation based on the doctrine of love and mercy. Its mission is to relieve the miseries of human lives, to seek out distress, bind up wounds, feed the hungry, and to minister to real wants. This work is carried on so quietly that most people have little idea of the great humanitarian work being done by the organization. Sixteen Pythian homes are maintained for aged members, their wives, widows, and children. Those who go to these homes do not go to receive charity but to share the comforts which are due them because of their membership in this great fraternity. Since it was organized, the society has expended more than \$50,-000,000 in benefits.

The Knights of Pythias, Number 493, consolidated with the Bellvue Lodge, Number 212, the Marchand Lodge, Number 285, a lodge from Brookville, and, finally, in 1940, with the Mahoning Lodge, Number 361, the history of which is given in the next article. The charter members of Number 493 were: C. N. McCoy, H. C. Campbell, F. F. Hughes, Rev. J. H. Keeley, J. K. Long, M. H. Morris, J. B. Chambers, J. T. Mitchell, John Grier, W. W. Crissman, Dr. S. S. Hamilton.

At the present time (1949) there are about 205 members in the lodge, 12 of whom are 50-year members, who are entitled to a membership free of dues and assessments for the rest of their lives. The present officers are: Glenn Bortz, chancellor commander; Don Law, vice chancellor; Harry Barnett, secretary; K. D. McFarland, financial secretary; Lawrence H. Butler, treasurer; B. J. Craft, prelate; and the trustees are, B. J. McFarland, Nay Shields, and H. C. Hilton.

### MAHONING LODGE NO 361, K. OF P.

Mahoning Lodge No. 361, K. of P., was instituted May 22, 1892, in Clayville borough, Lindsey post office, and the following names appear on the charter: Eleaver Heagon, W. H. Moore, Hans Olson, Ben Thomas, Morgan K. Pelton, Octavius Esaias, Patrick Sweeney.

This organization continued to prosper and grow in membership for many years, or until recent progressive laws were enacted which practically nullified the purpose for which the lodge was founded. The record shows that during the years 1921 and 1922 the

membership in good standing was 346, with cash and securities to the amount of \$12,500.

This amount of money was greatly depleted owing to sickness and deaths during the flu epidemic in the following 10 years. As a matter of protection and wisdom, it was decided to unite with Punxsutawney Lodge No. 493 in 1939. A letter was sent to all members to inform them of this action by the officers and favorable reply was received in nearly every case. The following named members held the different offices during this period: C. C., Fred C. Haag; Mat. at A., Grover Haag; V. C., George H. Depp; prelate, Richard L. Davis; treasurer, John R. Davis; M. of F., W. D. Schlemmer; K. of R. S., W. G. Thomas; Rep. to G. L., Ira S. Drummond; Inner G., Merritt VanDyke; Outer G., A. G. Beck.

### LOGGIA VETTORIES VENETTO NO. 17

Loggia Vettories Venetto, a men's Italian lodge, was established in Punxsutawney during the year 1919. The lodge, Number 17, holds its meetings the second Sunday of each month in the West End Hall. The officers are: Ralph Cardamone, president; Frank Villela, secretary; Felix Marino, treasurer. The organization has no vice president at the present time. Pauline Meyo is the state councilor.

### MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

About 1900 a group of energetic young men introduced in this town the Modern Woodmen of America. The Woodmen, as it is commonly called, is a beneficial fraternity organized with the sole purpose of creating a feeling of friendliness and good neighborliness among its members.

The organization has done much for the community as a whole. Many times in the past, the Woodmen have come to the aid of needy neighbors. During the grief-filled depression, some of the needy children of this town were comforted by donations made to them by the Modern Woodmen. Contributions were made by the members of the lodge for the construction of one of the town's favorite spots, Harmon Field. A sanitarium was founded in Colorado for the benefit of members of the lodge from anywhere in the nation. These activities typify the past work of the organization.

In earlier days the functions of the fraternity were characteristic of any lodge. A password was used by all members for entrance to the camp or meeting place; members greeted one another as "neighbor," just as they do today; and secrecy, to a certain extent, prevailed within the lodge.

Lost are the social functions of the Modern Woodmen Lodge of yesterday. The lodge now functions chiefly as an insurance agency, the value of the policies comparing to those of the leading insurance firms in the United States.

Today (1949) only three of the 31 charter members are alive. The present membership totals 94 in Punxsutawney. The counselor, Clarence Smith, heads the organization. Frank Fear is the secretary and agent, whose job it is to act as the insurance agent for the organization in this area.

1949 marks the golden anniversary of the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 6489. Fifty years have been spent in a worthwhile way, that of practicing friendliness and neighborliness within the community.



## THE MOOSE LODGE

The local chapter of the Moose Lodge was organized on February 11, 1945. This patriotic organization, which demands of its members unquestioned loyalty to the government and profound respect for the flag, was founded for many purposes, including entertainment, religious and vocational education, and development of teamwork, and the improvement of the citizen and his home life. The membership of the lodge has increased from the 97 charter members to the present (1949) 950 members. The social activities of the lodge consist of regularly scheduled meetings, which are held on the second floor of the Rosenthal building, 117 E. Mahoning Street, and of special events for the entire family.

The present officers of the lodge are: Governor, Carl VanDyke; junior governor, Harry Barnett; treasurer, Edward Leax; prelate, John Pisano; trustees, Lawrence Butler, Newton Beatty, and Charles Heitzenrater; and sergeants-at-arms, Charles Glass, Gabriel Serrian and John Collins.

The Moose Lodge engages in many civic affairs such as raising money for the Boy Scouts, the blood bank, and a baby incubator. The Moose Lodge of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, also helps support Moosehart, a model home for orphaned children of members, and Moosehaven, an ideal home for aged members, which the national order of the Moose maintains.

## THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

The Punxsutawney chapter No. 72 of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized March 28, 1908, by Dr. and Mrs. George Bell and Mrs. Lavonne Barrelle of this city. The Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal society to which only the wives, daughters, mothers, widows or sisters of Master Masons may be-

long. The original membership of 50 has increased to 300.

The various meeting places included: first, the Snyder building which is located between Findley and Gilpin Streets on West Mahoning Street; second, the Spirit Building, which is on North Findley Street between West Mahoning and Pine Streets; third, the Odd Fellows' Home, which is located on West Mahoning Street. The present meeting place is in the John Jenks Foundation Building on the corner of Jefferson and East Mahoning Streets.

The Order of the Eastern Star has been active in worthy causes of the town. At the present time, in addition to these projects, they are nationally aiding disabled war veterans, cancer research, and China's children. The group earns money for its charitable work. This religious organization is well known for its charitable contributions. There are two Order of Eastern Star homes maintained by the Order for the purpose of caring for disabled members or those who cannot provide for themselves and their families. The eastern home is located near Philadelphia and the western home in Bellevue. The Order of the Eastern Star has an educational loan fund from which the children of members may borrow for the purpose of continuing their education.

Mrs. Jean H. White is the present worthy matron; Miss Mayme Smith is associate matron; Miss Alberta Neill is secretary, and Mrs. Jessie Speidel is the treasurer. Charles D. Scott has been worthy patron for 25 years.

## THE POCAHONTAS LODGE

Pukeesheno Council No. 56 Degree of Pocahontas of the Improved Order of Red Men No. 205 was instituted August 15, 1903. There were about 100 charter members. The meetings, which were first held in



POCAHONTAS COUNCIL NO. 76.—First row, left to right: Marie Clawson, Jeanett Schrock, Pearl Couch, Margaret Taladay. Second row: Florence Lento, Ethel Lattimer, Blanche Hurd, Jeanette Yohe, Irene Hindman, Lou Miller, Minnie Walker, Thelma Burkett, Irene Sager, Myrtle Bowers, Sara Long, Mary Peace. Third row: Olive Wolfe, Mary Leax, Violet Jones, Mina Bortz.



Snyder Hall, are now held every Thursday evening in the K. of P. Hall.

The Pocahontas Lodge is a beneficial order which pays both sick benefits and funeral expenses. It also provides for orphans under sixteen years of age, and helps to maintain a lovely home at Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, for aged members of the lodge who have no one to care for them.

The head lady of this organization is named Pocahontas after the brave Indian maiden, who befriended the white people. At present (1949) Olive Wolfe is Pocahontas, and Mina Bortz is keeper of records. The other officers are Blanche Hurd and Violet Jones. The members of the Degree Team are Marie Clawson, Jeannette Schrock, Pearl Couch, Margaret Taladay, Florence Lenta, Ethel Lattimer, Blanche Hurd, Irene Hineman, Jeanette Yohe, Lou Miller, Minnie Walker, Velma Burkett, Irene Boyer, Myrtle Bowers, Sara Long, and Mary Peace.

#### THE PRINCESS MARIE LODGE

The Princess Marie Lodge of Punxsutawney, Pa., which is a branch of the Order of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, whose headquarters are in Pittsburgh, Pa., was organized September 20, 1931. Up to that time no woman of Italo-American extraction had ever belonged to such an organization, and it was quite a difficult task to organize such a lodge. It was through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Rose D'Orazio, Mrs. Frances Di Pietro and Mrs. Angeline Barber that this organization finally materialized. So on September 20, 1931, in the Elks ballroom, 35 women were initiated. About 200 state, national, county and local officers took part in this initiation.

At the first election, Mrs. Rose D'Orazio was elected the first president. Because of her interest and her devotion to the organization, the membership grew by leaps and bounds.

The officers of the lodge, elected annually, are: Pauline Meyo, president; Mrs. Concetta Bruno, vice president; Mrs. Rose Turzianni, ex-president; Mrs. Rose Rotolo, orator; Theresa Gigliotti, corresponding secretary; Elizabeth D'Orazio, financial secretary; Mrs. Mary Swanson, treasurer; Mrs. Frances Catanzarito, sentinel; Mrs. Giovanni Marino and Mrs. Theresa De Luca, mistresses of ceremony; trustees, Mrs. Rose Fusco, Mrs. Rose Gigliotti, Mrs. Rose Infantino, Mrs. Poala Castronova, Mrs. Orsola Gallina, and Mrs. Domenica Pulsoni.

The Princess Marie Lodge has many fine purposes for its members. The prime purpose is to combine the Italo-Americans of each district into one large group that can take advantage of the social activities its offers and also the material aids it gives each member.

From that small group of charter members the lodge has grown to a strong organization of 150 members and it continues to grow.—By Pauline Meyo.



HADASSAH—Top row: Mrs. S. Forstate, Mrs. S. Zeidel, Mrs. L. Jacobson, Mrs. J. Abelman. Seated: Mrs. F. Abelman, Mrs. R. Blatt, Mrs. J. Grossman, Mrs. R. Jacobson.

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, was founded in 1912 by Miss Henrietta Szold, Baltimore-born social worker and educator, who visited the Holy Land and was shocked by the sub-standard health conditions prevalent there at the time. Hadassah, which is the Hebrew name of Esther, Jewish queen of Persia in biblical times, was dedicated to health and welfare work in Palestine; and this is primarily the chief function of the organization to this day.

With this group of American Jewish women, the local group of Jewish women was proud to affiliate itself, when, in 1936, it organized the Punxsutawney Chapter of Hadassah. With other chapters all over America, it helped raise funds to maintain the modern, non-sectarian Rothschild-Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem, a Nurses' Training School, Tuberculosis Hospital in Safad, 52 infant and child welfare stations scattered throughout Palestine, playgrounds and immigration centers in Palestine. Its education program is designed to provide information toward intelligent citizenship in this country to guard the democratic way of life in the United States. In addition, the local chapter does community service work within Punxsutawney, supporting financially and spiritually every phase of community life.

The first president was Miss Elisabeth Adelson. Present officers are: Mrs. Jack Grossman, president; Mrs. Richard Blatt, vice president; Mrs. Robert Jacobson, secretary; Mrs. Fred Abelman, treasurer; Mrs. Fred Jacobson, financial secretary.

The Jewish Ladies' Auxiliary was originated in 1896, long before they took Hadassah work as a responsibility. The auxiliary was also later affiliated with the Jewish Council and sent funds to bring orphans to the United States.

The pioneer broom was a chewed up affair made from a hickory stick.



## THE PUNXSUTAWNEY SHRINE CLUB

The Punxsutawney Shrine Club was organized in 1944. There are now (1949) over 100 members, and the officers are: president, Henry Hilton; vice president, Albert Marling; secretary, J. Boyd Hunger; and treasurer, George Grube.

## REBEKAH LODGE OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

The Rebekah Lodge of Punxsutawney was organized May 1, 1914. The purpose of the lodge is to look after those in need and help the sick. When the lodge was organized there was a membership of 100. During the depression, the membership decreased and has not been built up to its original number. The first noble grand or president was Lucetta Palmer; the secretary, Ann Redding; and treasurer, Sara Jane Dinsmore.

This lodge is like one big family. To become a member one must have a father, brother or husband who is a member of the Odd Fellows, and must be a person of good character. At the present, there are 44 members. Dues are 20 cents per month. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. These meetings are held in the Odd Fellows Hall.

The Rebekah Lodge contributes money to the orphans' home in Meadville, Pa. One year they pledged \$200 to this cause. Apple butter, made at the home of Mrs. Ida Lettie, was sold to raise the money. Nine kettles were made at once, yielding about 98 gallons of apple butter. About 65 gallons of this was bought by the Punxsutawney Hospital.

When Christmas draws nigh, the members pack boxes to send to Europe, orphanages, and homes for the aged. They fill boxes with clothing, food, and gifts which they themselves make or buy.

There are only a few charter members now in the lodge. The present (1949) noble grand is Fannie Freas; vice grand, Hazel Dennison; secretary, Beulah Hargraves; chaplain, Ida Lettie; and treasurer, Tillie Shirk.

The members explain the lodge's purpose and work and proudly proclaim that they are doing everything possible to live up to their motto of Friendship, Love, and Truth.—*Information from Mrs. Ida Lettie.*

## THE RED MEN

The Pukeesheno Tribe No. 205 of the Red Men Lodge of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was organized in 1903 with a membership of 45. This organization is a branch of the Great Improved Order of the Red Men, which was founded in Philadelphia in 1763.

The Red Men is a patriotic, social, and beneficial lodge, which pays sick benefits and funeral expenses. The local chapter makes many contributions to worthy causes and helps to maintain a home, located near Philadelphia, for aged members of the order. There are now approximately 62 members.

The present (1949) officers are: president, Harry Barnett; secretary, Albert Fleming; and treasurer, James Gaston.

## SHEPHERDS OF BETHLEHEM

It was a lovely room. The fire burned brightly in the fireplace, and the mirror reflected the image of several women grouped around a circular table. The date was September 26, 1906.

That night many years ago, these few women were the founders of an organization for the promotion of good deeds of benevolence and kindness to all people. The lodge was to be known as Victory Lodge No. 95, order of "Shepherds of Bethlehem," State of Pennsylvania, City of Punxsutawney. There were 32 charter members, many long since deceased.

As the hostess served luncheon that memorable day long ago, the conversation drifted to a discussion of the sad, but ever present, subject of death. If one of the charter members should be taken from this earth, who would fill the vacancy? Also, would there be enough money for a proper burial? This discussion sprang from the lack of prosperity in 1906. It was decided, then, that there should be a collection of dues from each member at the monthly meetings. At the death of each member, her family would receive a benefit sum, which would be used for funeral expenses. It was also decided that a trustworthy person would be elected to fill each vacancy.

When the organization became more prosperous, individual homes were abandoned for regular lodge halls.

As the years passed and the charter members died, interest in the lodge waned. The monthly meetings were still held and the regular dues collected, but the attendance was low. As the club became inactive, a lodge hall could no longer be afforded, nor was it necessary.

Practically all the members are now deceased or on the inactive list and today (1949) only nine members remain. The meetings are held in the home of Mrs. Lou Miller, who acts as commander-in-chief, secretary, and treasurer of the organization. (Based upon essay by Carolyn Henry, pupil in 10th grade of P.H.S. Essay won third prize in contest sponsored by Centennial Committee.)

## WOMAN'S BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

The Ladies of the Maccabees was organized in Punxsutawney in 1886. After about ten years of existence, it became known as the Woman's Benefit Association, the name by which it is known today. This lodge was instituted as an affiliate of the Knights of the Maccabees by Mrs. Elizabeth Brown of Bradford, then state organizer.

The first officers of the organization in this city were: Mrs. John Sheehan, president; Mrs. Harriet Dunwoody, secretary; and Mrs. Anna Zimmerman, treasurer. The early members and officers included: Mrs. Ella Robbins, Mrs. Ella Maloney, Mrs. Ella North, Mrs. James Driscoll, Mrs. Mary Nolan, Mrs. Della Johnston, Mrs. Vina Zeitler, Mrs. Ella Williams, Mrs. John Buttery, Mrs. Mary E. Winslow, Mrs. John Sheehan, Mrs. Harriet Dunwood, Mrs. Anna Zimmerman, Mrs. Jennie Dinsmore, and Mrs. Laura Smith. All the early members are deceased with the exception of Mrs. Laura Smith, Mrs. Ella North, Mrs. Della Johnston, Mrs. Vina Zeitler and Mrs. Mary Nolan.

The association is non-sectarian and non-political. It operates on a legal reserve basis, and provides insurance protection for adults and children.

The local review, Number 115, has 250 members who hold meetings twice a month in the I.O.O.F. Hall. A few of the members have held continuous membership for 52 years.





**WOMEN OF THE MOOSE**—Left to right: Front row: Evelyn Anderson, Sentinel; Ella Mae Depp, Guide; Sara Bearfield, Recorder; Rexie Geist, Jr. Graduate Regent; Maybelle Beatty, Senior Regent; Catherine Butler, Sr. Graduate Regent; Hazel Byers, Junior Regent; Gladys Heitzenrater, Chaplain; Mabel Collins, Treasurer; Edith Work, Assistant Guide; Annie James, Argus. Back row: Linnie Bowser, committee chairman; Margaret Potts, Escort; Irene Simon, Escort; Mary Bloom, committee chairman; Margaret Titus, Escort; Amy Crawford, Escort; Betty Kensinger, Escort; Ruth Pisano, committee chairman; Isobel Beatty, committee chairman; Iola Gould, committee chairman; Delsie Tyger, committee chairman; Violet Jones, Escort.

## WOMEN OF THE MOOSE

The Auxiliary of the Moose Lodge of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was organized on March 24, 1946. The first officers elected by the 61 charter members are as follows: senior regent, Catherine Butler; junior regent, Rexie Geist; graduate regent, Olive Davis; chaplain, Mary Bowers; recorder, Evelyn Kline; treasurer, Anna Rita Davis; guide, Mabel VanDyke; assistant guide, Clarabelle Simmons; argus, Maybelle Beatty; sentinel, Mae VanHorn, and musician, Fannie Lingenfelter. The meetings, which were originally held in the Knights of Pythias Hall, are now held in the Moose Hall located on the third floor of the Rosenthal building, 117 East Mahoning Street, every first and third Wednesday. This organization, which at present (1949) consists of 115 members, performs many charitable works, such as providing milk for needy local families and raising funds to help support Moosehart, the model children's home maintained by the Moose, and Moosehaven, the old folks' home.

A notable event in the history of Punxsutawney was its Old Home Week in 1909. During that week nearly everybody who had ever lived in Punxsutawney returned for a visit and an elaborate week long program was carried out. It was generally acknowledged to be the biggest event in the city's history up to that time. The late A. J. Truitt, Esq., was the chairman of the committee in charge and much of the success of the celebration was credited to him and to Clymer H. Freas, then city editor of *The Spirit*.

Joseph Thompson, of Dowlingsville, was reported to have been the pioneer "singing master" in Punxsutawney and in Jefferson County. He used a tuning fork to sound the pitches and accompanied his vocal instructions with music from his violin.

## PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS

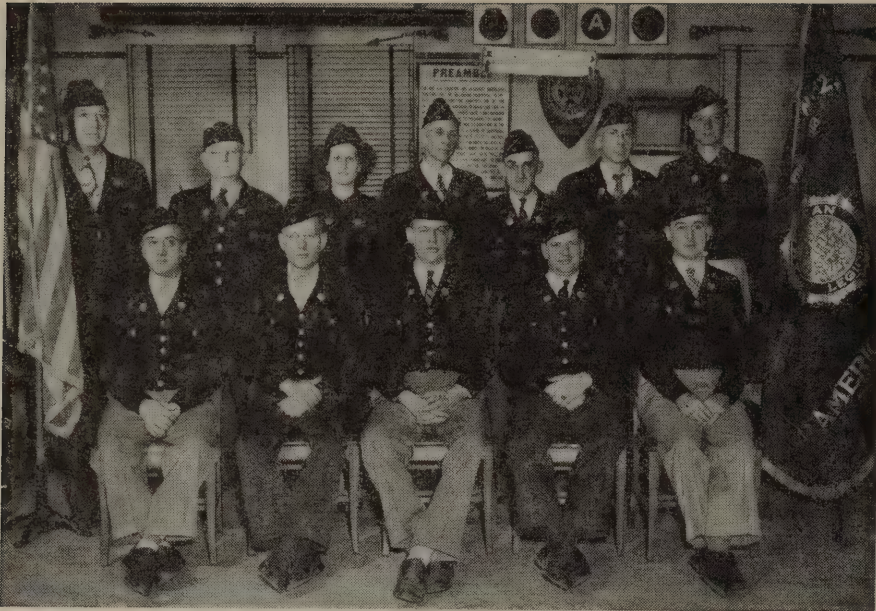
### HISTORY OF THE JOHN JACOB FISHER POST, NO. 62, THE AMERICAN LEGION

On June 24, 1919, the John Jacob Fisher Post No. 62, the American Legion came into being as a Punxsutawney institution. Just how well this post has grown and progressed throughout the years can only be determined by a rather thorough review of the records that have been written into the history of the town. The John Jacob Fisher Post is first and last a community organization of veterans of both World Wars. Down through the years the post has taken a broad view of the Legion program and while doing full justice to the special interests of veterans has never shirked nor attempted to sidestep any phase of community service. This principle has carried over to the present day and our post members feel that the Legion is destined to play yet a greater part in the development of Punxsutawney during the city's second hundred years of recorded history.

To review the records of the post, it is both fitting and appropriate that we pay some slight measure of tribute to the far sighted veterans of World War I who recognized the need of a veterans organization in our city and who caused this ideal to solidify into the establishment of the John Jacob Fisher Post No. 62, of the American Legion.

The post was founded after the following veterans (whose names appear on the charter) applied to the state chairman of the American Legion for a charter: John Kelso, Kenneth Burt, Arthur Crago, Homer Mottern, Newton Morrow, Franklin Jack, Paul Lewis, John Williams, Clarence Mack, Herbert Sheldon, Homer Beck, Leroy Zolner, E. J. Marshalek, Kenneth Mowrey, Joe Annarino, R. M. Neville, Clyde Fryer, Emory Dietrich, C. J. McGee, James Williams, J. Reed Williams, Antonio Myluna, Francis Sani, H. T. Jack, James Dwight Conser, W. Irving Gillespie, Jay H. Freas, Harry Krouse, William Glenn, Phil H. Lewis





AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS—Seated, left to right: Joseph Salvaggio, William Brown, Francis Wehrle, Russell Cope, Stuart Shaffer. Standing: Ernest L. Young, John Allsip, Helen Cornell, Scott Snyder, Earl Weis, Horace Miller, Jr., John Rowbottom.

and Paul Barclay. A temporary charter was issued with the provision that a permanent charter would be issued following November 11, 1919.

According to the constitution of the American Legion a post cannot be named after a living veteran. Accordingly, the founding fathers of the infant post set about securing a name for the new organization. Many veterans from Punxsutawney who had given their lives for their country, were considered for this honor and after some weeks of discussion a ballot was taken. The results disclosed that the post would bear the name of John Jacob Fisher, who was killed in an airplane crash in France in 1918. Lt. Fisher was the son of one of the first residents in Punxsutawney and Jefferson County. He was among the first of the local residents to volunteer for service in 1917.

The first few years of the post's history were devoted mainly to the task of establishing the post as a solid unit of the community and to paying homage to the memory of the men from the community who had died in the fray. In 1921 the post purchased a plot adjacent to Circle Hill Cemetery from Samuel Steffy and established the Legion Memorial Plot. During 1921 and 1922 the remains of most local men who were killed abroad were interred in the Memorial Plot. The members of the John Jacob Fisher Post provided full military rites including an honor guard for these men. The membership of the post grew to approximately 100 and the post was established as a going organization in the community.

The period from 1922 to 1926 is recorded in the post records as the inevitable period of struggle to keep the post alive. During this time membership fluctuated and the post, with no home of its own, rented and met in a variety of meeting halls in various parts of the town. Despite these handicaps the post managed to inch forward and while its gains were somewhat short of sensational they were, none the less, substantial and lasting. Various enterprises such as bazaars,

shows, and raffles were promoted to raise funds and in 1925 the post joined with the local council in sponsoring the Municipal Band. The size of this task is more fully noticeable when the post records of March 1925 show that a profit of \$12.02 was realized from one show. Post participation in sponsoring the band was discontinued in 1927, but the following year the post organized a drum and bugle corps that was destined to play an important role in the future development of the post.

From 1926-1930 the internal organization of the post was brought into conformity with the by-laws of the national organization. Lacking the necessary technical advice this organization was brought about by the process of "motion" and "counter-motion." Eventually a workable solution was reached and on May 2, 1930, Judge W. T. Darr

approved an application for the incorporation of the John Jacob Fisher Post No. 62, The American Legion, under the act of April 19, 1874. Walter Morris handled the legal end of the business for the post and the board of trustees of the corporation was authorized to receive and use real, personal, or mixed property for the advancement of the purposes set forth in the application for incorporation. These purposes are identical with the preamble of the constitution of the American Legion. During this period the membership was almost stationary between the 150 and 160 mark. The organization continue to sponsor fund raising projects—including an Old Home Week and a horse show. The Legion Drum and Bugle Corps reached the peak of its development and appeared at Legion functions in all sections of the state. The fine reputation gained by this corps did much to advertise the post in Legion circles in Pennsylvania.

The years 1930 to 1940 were the most progressive in the early history of the post. During this time the leadership abilities of various individual post members gradually came to the fore in Legion affairs and before the decade came to a close we were to see William F. Smith as both western vice commander and department commander, and M. R. Tibby as a western vice commander. The post rapidly became known in state Legion circles and Punxsutawney was

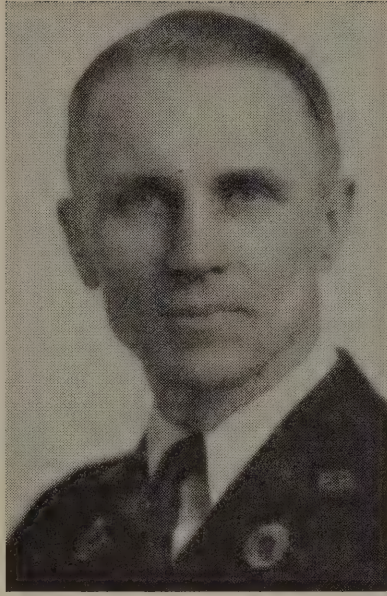


Legion Burial Plot

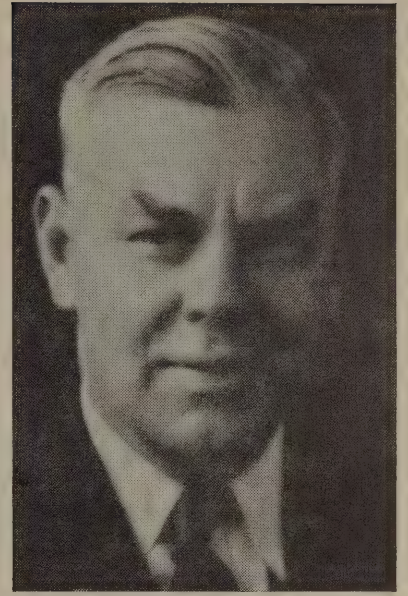




WILLIAM F. SMITH  
State Commander  
1937-1938



MATT. R. TIBBY  
Western Vice Commander  
1942-1943



JACK R. DODSON  
Western Vice Commander  
1948-1949

to become known all over the state as a Legion town. On June 1, 1934, the executive committee appointed seven members to serve on the board of governors of a new club which was to be formed and called the Punxsutawney Army and Navy Club. The first members of the board of governors were M. R. Tibby, David Carrick, Frank McCullough, Ralph Kuntz, James Quinlisk and James Williams. This organization was formed as a non-profit corporation and a class membership was restricted to veterans. By 1935 post membership had reached 206 but still had no regular meeting place. Activities of a fund raising nature still played an important part in the life of the post and many veterans were feeling the pinch of the depression. The post took the lead in requesting immediate payment of the soldiers bonus. A Sons of the Legion unit was formed and a Junior Bugle and Drum Corps. A Boy Scout troop was sponsored. Several items of the equipment were donated by the post to the local hospital during this time. Viewed in retrospect the years 1930-1940 were the most progressive in the early days of the post. Due, apparently, to the Legion's struggle with the depression, the present organization was shaped more or less in the mold of adversity. The principles which are our present guides were nurtured as the organization joined the fight for the WWI soldiers bonus. They were further solidified by the economic conditions that were faced by so many of the individual members. This adversity brought the individual post member face to face with the need for a really strong organization of veterans in the community. The result is apparent in the post of today.

From 1940 to the present, every individual citizen in the community is familiar with the role the John Jacob Fisher Post of the American Legion has played on the local scene. Long prior to Pearl Harbor the Legion as a national group, realized the precarious position of world affairs and preached a doctrine of preparedness. Mobilization plans were drawn and reviewed at national headquarters. Legion speakers traveled the length of the land preaching the doctrine of preparedness. Mostly this plea was ignored by a complacent citizenry. No sooner had the treachery

of Pearl Harbor shocked the nation than the Legion posts the country over initiated essential security action. World War I veterans who could still pass a physical examination donned their uniforms and volunteered for active duty. Those who were unable to qualify physically or who were essential to the productive capacity of the country took over the task of internal security in addition to their other duties. Air raid warning units were organized and manned. Personnel to man air raid security warden posts was provided. Fire fighting and rescue teams were activated. Provisions to transport and process selectees and volunteers to our fighting forces were originated and made operative. All this was done while the productive output of our nation increased tenfold. In the first real time of need, Post No. 62 of the American Legion in Punxsutawney was not found wanting. The war activities served to further solidify the position of the post in the community. The economic status of the post rose to its highest level and the post prospered in a material way. Much of this profit was invested in the future of Punxsutawney. The Legion Memorial Plot was enlarged and landscaped. The imposing Fisher home on West Mahoning Street was purchased and donated to the borough for a library. Legion officials prepared to welcome the World War II veterans when the conflict was ended.

With the end of the war in Europe the local veterans began to return home. In the latter part of 1945 during the commandship of Jack Dodson the membership rose to the all time high of 1193. The transition between the wars was so skillfully handled under the able guidance of Commander Dodson that the post grew to manhood almost over night. The fourfold increase in membership served to make the post more than ever a part of the community and the postwar activities of the Legion centered on the community activity field. Under Commander Carl Hutchison, the Legion News came into being as the official paper of the post. Business activities of the post were reviewed and a start was made to place them on a more efficient basis. Under Commander Ernest Young, the first World War II commander of the post, the Legion Chorus was organized as a com-



munity function and has taken its place as one of the outstanding musical aggregations of the district. The business policy instituted the previous year was continued and improved. The membership was maintained and all in all the post faces the future confident that no obstacle cannot be surmounted.—By *Francis Wehrle*.

Commanders of the American Legion: 1920, Phil Lewis; 1921, Dr. Paul Epright; 1922, R. D. Allison; 1923, John Kelso; 1924, David Carrick; 1925, H. T. Jack; 1926, H. M. Walker; 1927, John Allsip; 1928, H. T. Kinney; 1929, R. M. Neville; 1930, M. R. Tibby; 1931, C. L. Mowrey; 1932, W. F. Smith; 1933, L. A. McQuown; 1934, Alva Cole; 1935, Ralph Kuntz; 1936, D. Zeitler; 1937, James Quinlisk; 1938, N. H. Boyd; 1939, Potter Smiley; 1940, Orrie Marvin; 1941, Horace Miller; 1942, Scott Snyder; 1943, George Hallman; 1944, Walter Morris; 1945, Francis Maloney; 1946, Jack R. Dodson; 1947, Carl Hutchison; 1948, Ernest Young; 1949, Francis E. Wehrle.

#### JOHN JACOB FISHER UNIT NO. 62 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The American Legion Auxiliary was formed for the one purpose of aiding the American Legion in carrying out the great program of peacetime service to America, to which the Legion is dedicated. It members strike side by side with the men of the Legion in a spirit of unselfish devotion to the well-being of the American republic. Although often working independently on projects of its own, the Auxiliary has no purposes that are apart from the aims of the American Legion.

On February 12, 1920, a committee of three from the John Jacob Fisher Post was appointed to secure

names for the purpose of organizing an auxiliary to the post. Those appointed were: Rev. E. M. Deitrich, Robert Allison, and Mrs. Adda Chambers. Sixteen names were obtained for a temporary charter. They were as follows: Mrs. Caroline Fisher, Mrs. Adda W. Brown, Mrs. Jessie D. Allison, Mrs. Agnes V. Cole, Mrs. Annabel R. Shermer, Mrs. Maude Veil, Mrs. Elizabeth Ware Cole, Mrs. Edith Gillespie, Miss Katherine Kaupp, Miss Nora B. Callanan, Miss Annie M. Lewis, Mrs. Mary E. Furniss, Mrs. Kate L. Parsons, Mrs. Alma V. Musser, Mrs. Anna J. Jack, Mrs. Minnie E. Sheldon.

April 20, 1920, a meeting was held in the Community Rooms to organize an auxiliary. Mrs. Adda Chambers presided at this meeting and the following officers were elected: president, Mrs. Jessie D. Allison; vice president, Mrs. Adda W. Brown; secretary, Mrs. Emma Brown; treasurer, Mrs. Nora Callanan.

A permanent charter was obtained at the first national convention November 2, 1921, at Kansas City, Missouri. Charter members other than those previously listed are: Mrs. Laura Allen, Mrs. Gladys Allison, Mrs. Anna Bofinger, Miss Anna Brennan, Mrs. Mina Bortz, Mrs. Laura Gray, Mrs. Laura Green, Mrs. LaRue Groves, Mrs. Olive Henneigh, Mrs. Sara Hamilton, Mrs. Fannie Irvin, Miss Emma Kelso, Miss Winifred Maloney, Miss Lillian Oswald, Mrs. Myrtle Sutter, Miss Elizabeth Williams, Miss Norabelle Tyson, Mrs. Eva Williams, Miss Susan Young, Mrs. Martha Carter, Miss Mae Carter, Mrs. Mary Croasman, Mrs. Mary Deitrich, Mrs. Mary Freas, Mrs. Anna Frew, Mrs. Myrtle John Mrs. Maude Kramer, Mrs. LaRue Kennard, Mrs. Elva Lockwood, Mrs. Laura Miller, Mrs. Bertha Oswald, Mrs. Laura Zeitler, Mrs. Rhoda



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—First row: Mrs. Daisy Teats, Mrs. J. L. Fisher, Mrs. Jessie Allison, Mrs. E. M. Deitrich. Second row: Mrs. Rebecca Williams, Miss Emma Kelso, Miss Ruth Allsip, Miss Jean Carrick, Mrs. Bernice Brown. Third row: Mrs. Ann Tibby, Mrs. Allene Marvin, Mrs. Gladys Thomas, Mrs. Alice Smith. Fourth row: Mrs. Nevada Snyder, Mrs. Helen Gilliland, Mrs. Louise Steiner.



Prescott, Mrs. Lottie Crissman, Mrs. Emma Tyson, Mrs. Daisy Teats, Mrs. Elizabeth Young.

#### *Membership*

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary is limited to the mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of members of the American Legion and to the mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of all men and women who were in the armed forces of the United States between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, or between December 7, 1941 and September 2, 1945, all dates inclusive, or who being citizens of the United States at the time of the entry therein, served on active duty in the armed forces of any of the governments, associated with the United States during either of said World Wars and died in line of duty, or after honorable discharge, and to those women who of their own right are eligible to membership.

Membership has been increased from the original 45 charter members to 334 in 1948.

#### *Activities*

January—Legislative and National Defense.

February—Americanism.

March—Community Service.

April—Child Welfare and Pan-American.

May—Poppy.

June—Junior Activities.

July—Girls' State.

August—Convention.

September—Music.

October—Education of War Orphans.

November—Membership.

December—Rehabilitation.

#### *Legislative and National Defense*

Programs are held and contributions given each year to national defense.

Members give their support to any legislation concerning the welfare of veterans and their families.

#### *Americanism*

Medal school awards and certificates are presented each year by the Auxiliary to an eighth grade girl selected by the pupils in local and rural schools. Eight were presented in 1948.

A girl who has completed her eleventh year in school and is outstanding, is selected to attend Keystone Girls Camp at Scotland, Pa., as a guest of the Auxiliary.

Americanism meetings are held each year in February.

#### *Community Service*

Money has been donated by the Auxiliary for the Legion Memorial Plot, uniforms for the band, uniforms and bugles for the Bugle and Drum Corps, to the Salvation Army, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Infantile Paralysis fund. The American Legion and Auxiliary presented an incubator to the Adrian Hospital; and the Auxiliary, two \$25 bonds.

In 1933, the Auxiliary sponsored a Girl Scout troop, and in 1927, 1929, 1931, 1932, a "Well-Baby" clinic.

#### *Child Welfare*

Contributions are made annually to the Child Welfare Fund, Child Welfare Show, and Junior Baseball. Children of veterans are taken care of locally and at Scotland Orphan School.

#### *Poppy*

The first poppies were made and sold in 1922. In 1948 7,000 were sold. Money derived from the sale

of poppies is used for child welfare and rehabilitation work in the Auxiliary.

#### *Rehabilitation*

In 1944 the American Legion and Auxiliary sent 150 Christmas packages to veterans' hospitals. A contribution is now sent each year toward this fund. Other contributions have been made to five veterans' hospitals at Christmas; also "cigarette fund," records for veterans, a radio controlled unit, earphones, amphitheater at Aspinwall Hospital, trees for "Blue Star Memorial Highway," grandstand at Coatesville Veterans' Hospital, greenhouse at Valley Forge Hospital, "bingo" prizes for Deshon Hospital, Adrian Hospital Deep Therapy Fund, groceries to Cincinnati for flood relief.

Pennsylvania led the nation in 1945 in gifts contributed to hospitalized veterans. A total of \$499.65 was made local and state-wide in 1945 for child welfare and rehabilitation.

Mrs. William Gilliland, Mrs. Donald Skinner, Mrs. George Thomas, and Mrs. Horace Brown are serving as volunteer hospital workers at Deshon Hospital.

#### *War Activities (World War II)*

Two bond booths were sponsored by the Auxiliary from September 1942 to December 1945. Also a booth at the KDKA and WCED bond rallies. Special bond drives were held by the State Auxiliary. The local Auxiliary sold bonds to help purchase two submarines, fifty U. S. Army ambulance planes, three hospital ships, and five bombers to honor deceased Past Department Commanders, William F. Smith of Punxsutawney being one of the Past Department Commanders.

A total of \$245,946.81 in bonds was sold by the Legion and Auxiliary in a period of three years. A "Molly Pitcher" tag day was sponsored.

Two mobile blood donor units were presented to the Red Cross by Auxiliary units, a club-mobile unit was also sponsored.

#### *Gold Star Mothers*

A Gold Star Mother is the mother of one who gave his life in service of his country. Twenty-seven Gold Star Mothers are members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

#### *Past Auxiliary Presidents*

1921-1922, Mrs. Jessie Allison, Punxsutawney; 1923, Mrs. E. M. Deitrich, Irwin; 1924, Mrs. Joseph Williams, deceased; 1925, Mrs. Daisy Teats, Johnstown; 1926, Mrs. Carrie Fisher, Punxsutawney; 1927, Miss Emma Kelso, Punxsutawney; 1928-1929, Mrs. Winifred Watkins, Ancon, C. Z.; 1930-1931, Mrs. Rebecca Williams, Big Run; 1932-1933, Miss Ruth Allsipp, Punxsutawney; 1934-1935, Miss Jean Carrick, R. D. 5, Punxsutawney; 1936-1937, Mrs. Ann Tibby, Punxsutawney; 1938, Mrs. Allene Marvin, Punxsutawney; 1939, Mrs. Alice Smith, Punxsutawney; 1940, Mrs. Nelle Crozier, Timblin; 1941, Mrs. Ruth Wolfe, deceased; 1942, Mrs. Ann Tibby, Punxsutawney; 1943, Miss Virginia Stringer, Muncie, Ind.; 1944, Mrs. Bernice Brown, Punxsutawney; 1945, Mrs. Nevada Snyder, Punxsutawney; 1946, Mrs. Flora Dodson, Greensburg R. D.; 1947, Mrs. Helen Gilliland, Punxsutawney; 1948, Mrs. Gladys Thomas, Punxsutawney.

#### *Bi-County Council*

Auxiliary units in Jefferson and Clarion Counties formed a Bi-County Council in 1927. Punxsutawney members who served as council presidents were: Miss



Emma Kelso, 1929; Miss Winnie Maloney, Miss Ruth Allsip, 1933; and Mrs. Bernice Brown, 1945.

*Officers of the American Legion Auxiliary, 1948-1949*

President, Mrs. Louise Steiner; first vice president, Mrs. Allene Marvin; second vice president, Mrs. Dorothy Shaffer; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Catherine Tait; secretary, Mrs. Flora Harrick; historian, Miss Betty Hilton; chaplain, Mrs. Mary Mack; sergeant-at-arms, Mrs. Olive Wolfe.

#### *Important Events in Auxiliary History*

Armistice Day, 1922, the Auxiliary, with the assistance of Legion members, planted a tree in Barclay Square in memory of Max Caldwell, who was killed in action and whose body was not returned from France. A plaque was placed on the tree.

The American Legion presented a citation to Mrs. Carrie Fisher for valuable service rendered the Legion—the fourth citation of its kind ever given in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, first national president of the American Legion Auxiliary, died in March, 1925. The charter was draped in her memory for 30 days.

January, 1949, the chaplain, Mrs. Hattie Lias, died very suddenly.

September 30, 1937, the Auxiliary served a dinner honoring W. F. Smith, state commander of the American Legion. He died very suddenly in February, 1943.

November 3, 1944, Auxiliary members accompanied by Mrs. J. L. Fisher joined the Legion in the dedication of the new library which had been presented to the Borough of Punxsutawney by the post.

#### *Auxiliary Meetings*

Since the organization of the Auxiliary, meetings have been held in the Y.M.C.A., I.O.O.F., Red Men's Hall, K. of P. Hall, American Club rooms, Penelec rooms, and at present in the American Legion rooms in the Army and Navy Club Building.—By Mrs. Horace A. Brown.

### THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

On May 1, 1917, a petition for authority to form a chapter of the American Red Cross in Punxsutawney was sent to the Central Committee of the American Red Cross. This petition listed F. S. Jackson, the superintendent of public schools, as temporary chairman of the committee of organization with Mrs. J. H. Rodkey as temporary secretary. The petition was signed by S. Taylor North, F. C. Lang, S. A. Rinn, T. M. Kurtz, Susan Heitzenrater, Nell W. Ley, Mrs. C. R. Stevenson, W. G. Carter, W. O. Smith, and J. B. Eberhart. The petition for authorization was approved May 11, 1917. On May 16, an organization meeting was held in the Jefferson Theatre at which time the Punxsutawney chapter was organized with jurisdiction over Punxsutawney and vicinity. The officers elected were: chairman, F. S. Jackson; vice chairman, Miss Nettie Miller; treasurer, Banks W. Young; and secretary, Mrs. E. H. Rodkey. Miss Susan Heitzenrater, Mrs. L. M. Clark, Mrs. Charles Feicht, Frank Beck and Dr. J. P. Benson were named as an executive committee. Branches were organized at Hamilton, Frostburg, Covode, Cloe, Grange, Big Run, Sykesville, Anita and Valier.

The Punxsutawney chapter of the American Red Cross was organized for the purpose of war relief and

so confined its work to this field during World War I.

However, during the flu epidemic in 1918, the local Red Cross set up seven temporary hospitals, recruited nurses, furnished supplies, and helped in other ways to relief the suffering and to care for the sick.

Punxsutawney has been very fortunate in that few major disasters have been visited upon us, but the Red Cross Disaster Committee is ready if the need comes. When the St. Patrick's Day flood struck this community in 1936, this committee with volunteer recruits established shelters and rendered canteen service. Help and supplies were sent in from national headquarters and from neighboring chapters. A total of \$10,396.95 was spent for food, clothing, medicine, coal, furniture, and other essentials, and more than 1,000 people were aided.

On September 5, 1947, when a gasoline power shovel exploded and severely burned twelve men, the Red Cross secured a much needed supply of blood plasma and recruited three nurses and seven nurses' aides to take care of the injured.

The year 1948 was an exceedingly busy one for the local chapter of the Red Cross. The home service of the chapter included the filing of 439 claims, relating to government benefits, pensions, hospitalization, and rehabilitation. Home service is one of the major functions of the Red Cross, which acts as a medium between the nation's civilians and the armed forces. The chapter also assisted in the preparation of documents arranging for the return of 35 American war dead buried overseas, and it aided the War Department in locating the next of kin to deceased veterans. 372 persons were taught to swim under the American Red Cross learn-to-swim campaign. During this same year, the local chapter recruited nurses of the area for duty in the two polio epidemics, contributed generously to victims of fires, and shipped hundreds of surgical dressings to disaster scenes. Among the other chapter services was the making of 45 knitted and 79 sewn garments for overseas emergency relief. This work was done by 24 volunteers, who worked a total of 936 hours during the year. The same volunteers are now (1949) engaged in making 92 sweaters for patients in federal hospitals.

The name Mrs. Fanny Adams is synonymous with Red Cross in Punxsutawney. Mrs. Adams undertook her present position as executive secretary in 1921, and it is by her efficient work that the Punxsutawney chapter of the Red Cross has become one of the outstanding chapters of this area.

The present officers of this organization are: Chairman, W. Ross Startzell; vice chairman, Mrs. Howard Ley; treasurer, James B. Quinlisk; recording secretary, Mrs. Joseph P. Benson; executive secretary, Mrs. Fanny M. Adams; and Junior Red Cross chairman, Miss Mable Monroe.—By Mary Jane Robinson.

### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized April 3, 1924, for a number of patriotic reasons; to foster a spirit of true patriotism, to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution, to maintain and extend the institutions of America, to advocate appropriate celebrations for patriotic anniversaries, and to preserve the memory of noble men and women



who bore their share in the danger and privation in the War of the Revolution. Instrumental in establishing the local organization were: Mrs. Ada Montgomery, Mrs. Nelle W. Ley, and Mrs. Nancy Robinson, who had formerly been members of the Brookville chapter of the D.A.R. A charter was granted to the club April 16, 1926. The first officers were: Mrs. W. A. Bowers, regent; Mrs. L. L. Strock, first vice regent; Mrs. J. L. Fisher, second vice regent; Mrs. Blanche Wilson, recording secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Mahan, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Carrie Smith, treasurer; Ann Hastings, chaplain; Marie Hilliard, librarian; Nancy Robinson, registrar, and Mrs. Minnie Grube, historian.

The present officers are: Mrs. Esther B. Averill, regent; Mrs. Earl Brennan, first vice regent; Mrs. Anna Murray Mott, second vice regent; Mrs. Ida Lettie, chaplain; Mrs. Creat Fetterman, recording secretary; Miss Mable Monroe, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Robert Palmer, treasurer; Mrs. Samuel Smith, librarian; Miss Martha McGee, historian; Mrs. W. Ray Chilcott, registrar; Mrs. W. A. Hill, pianist. This chapter had 95 charter members. There are 55 members now and many of them non-resident members.

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

The Disabled Veterans of the World War, No. 68 was established on February 23, 1938, by Frank Jarback and Willis D. Hall, M. D. The organization comprises members from Jefferson, Clearfield, Indiana and Armstrong counties. The twelve charter members were: Earl B. Croasman, Frank Jarbeck, Joseph Rogers, Michael Cesario, John Lingenfelter, James Spinelli, John Young, Earl Grazier, Fred H. Wingert, Mervin Brocious, Atwood A. Parsons, Alfred Lill. The original officers were: commander, Earl Croasman, adjutant, Frank Jarbeck; treasurer, Mervin Brocious; department commander, Willis D. Hall, M. D.; department adjutant, J. K. Hare; national commander, W. I. Harl; national adjutant, Vivian D. Corbley.

The purpose of the organization is to take care of disabled American veterans and their families. They contribute to various welfare organizations. During the grief-filled depression they helped veterans find work and gave needy families clothing and food.

The present officers are: commander, James Thomas; adjutant, Michael Cesario; treasurer, Mervin Brocious; junior commander Mondes Smith; vice commander, James Guilfoyle.

The commander-in-chief of the national organization is General Jonathan Wainwright.

### JUNIOR RED CROSS

The Junior Red Cross was organized in Punxsutawney and vicinity in 1917 under the direction of the Punxsutawney chapter of American Red Cross. Frank S. Jackson, superintendent of schools, was the first chairman.

During World War I, the chapter was active in assisting the Senior Red Cross in many ways. A serving room was set up in the Weber Memorial School home economics department to which the high school girls reported for serving each afternoon after school. Here they hemmed sheets, pillow cases and towels, made bed shirts and bed slippers. Many girls knit sweaters, socks, and gloves. They made 500 favors a year, gifts such as games, cookies, and candy at

Christmas time for veterans in hospitals at Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and Carreyville, Maryland. Funds for these gifts were raised by a Christmas plan and paper drives. Layettes were made by the girls for the local hospital. Books were also collected for the hospital.

For two years the Junior Red Cross conducted the campaign for funds for the Senior Chapter, making the solicitation in one day.

The Junior Red Cross was responsible for the first school nurse in Punxsutawney, paying the nurse's salary and the operating expenses of the nurse's office. One hundred percent of the salary was paid in 1919-20 and 1920-21. After that, they paid a portion of the salary until 1930, when the school board took over.

In 1949, 3,979 girls and boys in 46 of the chapter area's 48 schools enrolled in the Junior Red Cross. Last year these members prepared and shipped overseas a total of 121 gift boxes, contributed \$100 to the National Red Cross Children's Fund, made 500 bridge tallies, and constructed 100 ash trays for veterans' hospitals.

### "FORTY ET EIGHT"

The "Forty et Eight" was organized shortly after World War I (1922) with headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. The organization was, at first, a secret society that sprang up within the American Legion. The organization got its name from the small trains on which the members rode while in France during the war. On the side of each car was stenciled in French "Forty Men and Eight Horses," thus the name "Forty et Eight." Originally it was a small organization of picked Legionnaires with fun, good fellowship, and the good of the Legion as their goal. Since 1922 the "Forty et Eight" has spearheaded the fun at Legion conventions. The main project of the "Forty et Eight" is child welfare.

Voiture Local 770 of Jefferson County was organized in 1924. The local club was reorganized in October, 1947, after a lull of some thirteen years. The local Voiture is interested primarily in the Scotland School for Orphans in Scotland, Pa. The organization is supported by a \$10 initiation fee and \$5 dues each year after. Of this amount 50 cents a year of each man's dues goes to the National Child Welfare Fund. A yearly contribution is also made by the Voiture to the Scotland School. The club meets the second Friday of each month, usually in the Legion rooms on Findley Street. At present there are 25 charter members and 50 other members of the club.

The officers of the "Forty et Eight" are: chef de gare, John Allsip; chef de train, W. Wilson Blair; correspondant, Harry A. VanDyke; commissaire intendant, Glen W. Tait; conductor, John Sabarich; commis voyageur, Frederick J. Roberts; garde de la porte, Carl L. Brocious; lampiste, William T. Brown; aumônier, Emmett Black; drapeau, George Hallman; avocat, Walter E. Morris; médecin, Dr. John A. Tushim; publicité, F. E. Wehrle; historian, Harry G. Kerr; garde de la prisonnier, Joseph E. Steiner, John F. Rowbottom.

In 1870 the population of Clayville was 189. On March 7, 1907, when it was consolidated with Punxsutawney the population exceeded 2500.



## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PENN'A NAT'L GUARD, PUNXSUTAWNEY

The history of the present National Guard unit assigned to Punxsutawney dates back to June 6, 1921. On this date the unit, Troop F, 104th Cavalry, stood federal muster at the old administration building on the fair grounds. Captain Walter E. Morris was in command, the other officers of the unit being Lts. N. S. Scava and H. T. Jack. The strength of the unit at this time was three officers and 65 enlisted men.

During the period 1921-1930 the unit attended summer encampment each year at Colebrook, Pa., on the Mt. Gretna Military Reservation.

During the summer of 1924 Captain Olaf D. Carlton assumed command and was later replaced by Lt. James C. Williams. In 1926-1927, John T. Bell assumed command. Assisting Captain Bell were Lts. James C. Williams and John E. McCreight.

On April 1, 1929, the unit designation was changed to Troop L, 104th Cavalry.

During the winter and spring of 1930 and 1931 the property known as the Fair Grounds was acquired and deed for same turned over to the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of construction of an administration building and a stable. Approximately \$50,000 was expended by the state for the present buildings.

About 1932 the unit began attending the summer encampment at Indiantown Gap (which was later to become the war-time training site for the 28th Division) along with other units throughout the state comprising the 52nd Cavalry Brigade. Punxsutawney's troop was assigned to the Third Squadron with headquarters at Harrisburg, Pa., Major Samuel E. Fitting commanding the squadron.

During the years of peace time 1921 to 1941 on two occasions the troop was called upon to render a public service to suppress riots or assist as a result of public disaster. On July 20, 1922, the troop was mobilized and sent to Cokeburg, Pa., and patrols were used in the vicinity of Cokeburg, Clarksville, Sandy Plain, Bealsville, and Frederickstown for the purpose of protecting life and property in connection with riots that were staged by striking miners.

The second occasion the troop was called upon for public duty occurred during the famous St. Patrick's Day flood in the spring of 1936. On March 20th the troop was mobilized and taken by motor convoy (less animals) to Pittsburgh, Pa., and placed on duty in the vicinity of the Pennsylvania Railroad produce terminal and the warehouse district for the purpose of preventing looting and to help provide police protection. On March 26th the troop returned to its home station and was demobilized.

On June 18th, 1939, the troop was re-designated Troop I, 103rd Cavalry.

On Sept. 23, 1940, the troop was again re-designated Battery E, 190th Field Artillery. This of course was a radical change from the cavalry with which all were thoroughly familiar; the horses were shipped to other parts of the state and Battery E began to receive artillery equipment. The "Long Tom" (155 mm. gun) when first received created quite a lot of interest in Punxsutawney at the time.



Administration Building, Battery B, 229th Field Artillery Battalion,  
Pennsylvania National Guard.

On Jan. 13, 1941, the battery was mobilized for one year training under the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940. The training was conducted at the Armory until February 1, at which time the battery was sent to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. As everyone knows, the war came before the one year training was completed and the unit was sent overseas. While overseas, the battery was again re-designated Battery E, 200th Field Artillery Battalion and while overseas was commanded by a DuBois man, Captain McGrath. The battery landed in Ireland, was later sent to England and from there participated in the invasion, the Battle of the Bulge, and various other engagements. An enviable record was established by unit members in the performance of their duty. No one was killed while a member of the battery; however, several men were wounded. It is estimated that approximately 30 percent of the unit members who left Punxsutawney on February 1, 1941, were commissioned as officers during the war.

At the time of entraining for Camp Shelby, Miss., Captain Charles D. Stoops had assumed command of the battery and was assisted by Lieutenants Josef C. Jordan, Robert J. Smouse and Francis E. Wehrle. Captain Bell had been promoted to lieutenant colonel and assumed command of the battalion of which Battery B was a part. Other units comprising the Battalion were from Clearfield, DuBois and New Castle.

The present postwar National Guard was organized as Battery B, 229th Field Artillery Battalion, other units of the battalion being located in DuBois, Grove City and New Castle, with headquarters in New Castle. Federal recognition was received on December 5, 1946. Captain Warren O. Smith was in command.

Captain Smith resigned to accept a commission in the regular army and was succeeded by Capt. George Adamson on April 21, 1947. Captain Adamson is assisted by Lieutenants James L. Milliron, Robert W. Mitchell, Paul R. Amblod and Joseph L. Skehan.

The Battery as presently organized comprises six officers and 88 enlisted men. Chief weapon of the unit is the 105 mm howitzer, truck drawn.—Emery E. Hetrick, *Federal Caretaker*; George M. Adamson, *Capt. F. A.*

The original site of Punxsutawney contained 327 acres and 148 perches, hardly a good sized farm.



## PUNXSUTAWNEY ARMY AND NAVY CLUB

The Punxsutawney Army & Navy Club, which is incorporated, was founded May 31, 1934. The club purpose is: "For perpetuation of the Memorial Plot of the John Jacob Fisher Post of the American Legion Post No. 62 and for social enjoyment of the membership of veterans of the American Legion, V.F.W., D.A.V., and Spanish-American Veterans' organizations, who might become members of the club."

A veteran of this locality has to be a member of one of the above veterans' organizations to become a regular member of the Army and Navy Club. Besides the veteran members of the club, there are several hundred members who are non-veterans, known as "Class B" members.

The club's first board of governors consisted of Ralph Kuntz, president; Frank McCullough, first vice president; James Williams, secretary; M. R. Tibby, treasurer; Horace A. Brown, James Quinlisk and David Carrick. The present board is as follows: H. G. Miller, Jr., president; John Allsip, first vice president; William Brown, secretary; Carlton Mowrey, treasurer; Harry VanDyke, Clarence Swarmer and Earl Weiss. The board of governors meets every Monday evening. The annual election of officers is held on the second Wednesday of June.

The club provides such entertainment for its members as: annual picnics, weekly dances, sponsoring a bowling team, and providing club rooms and a dining room. The club also contributes financial help to the American Legion Post No. 62, and takes active part in civic affairs.

The club first met in the Fackiner building on South Findley Street. The present site is 200 North Findley Street, which is the property of the club. The club also owns the property across Farmers Alley from the A. & N. building.

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

The first Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in Punxsutawney was organized in 1928. This post, called the Problys-Brennan Post, had a membership of 150.

The present post, called the Robinson-Morrison Post No. 2076, was organized on August 6, 1935. The officers elected for the year were: commander, William Glenn Moore; senior vice commander, Daniel Mauk; junior vice commander, Clay T. Kanauff; adjutant, Paul Barclay; quartermaster, Fenton McAfee; chaplain, J. Allen McGee; officer of the day, Newton Morrow; and trustees, L. L. Bennett, Blair Barnett and Donald C. Dawson. This post, which began with 90 charter members, now (1949) has approximately 350. Anyone wishing to join this organization must hold an honorable discharge from some branch of the service and must have served overseas during the Spanish-American War, World War I, or World War



The Army & Navy Club

II. The meetings are held every second and fourth Monday in the Knights of Pythias Hall.

The local V.F.W. engages in many important activities. It aids in money raising projects, helps to conduct Armistice Day and Memorial Day services, assists in funerals for deceased veterans, sells buddy poppies for the benefit of disabled veterans, helps veterans find jobs, and secures applications for schools. It also helps to maintain a National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., for the children and widows of deceased veterans.

The present officers of the organization are: commander, Paul Beck; senior vice commander, John Anderson; junior vice commander, George Kramer; quartermaster, Willis Anderson; chaplain, Vane H. Lowmaster; and trustees, George Swanson, H. A. Smith and Glenn Bortz.

## ROBINSON-MORRISON AUXILIARY NO. 2076

The Robinson-Morrison Auxiliary No. 2076 to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, was organized June 8, 1936, in the Y.M.C.A. building. The first officers installed were: president, Mrs. Clay Kanouff; senior vice president, Mrs. Francis O'Keefe; junior vice president, Mrs. Walter Rosenberger; secretary, Mrs. Glenn Moore; treasurer, Mrs. Lee Rosenberger; and chaplain, Mrs. Ida Lettie.





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY**—First row, seated, left to right: Mrs. Lawrence Butler, chaplain; Mrs. Francis O'Keefe, secretary; Mrs. Wm. Leax, senior vice president; Mrs. Irvin Miller, president; Mrs. Wasiley Kaleina, junior vice president; Mrs. Clair Beatty, treasurer. Second row: Mrs. Reed Jordan, patriotic instructor; Mrs. John Przestrzelski, musician; Mrs. Murray Anderson, trustee; Mrs. Walter Means, trustee; Mrs. Bertha Steffy, Mrs. John Kopnitsky, Mrs. John Olenic, Mrs. Anna Beck Gall, Mrs. Wm. Dormire, Mrs. James Thomas, Mrs. Ralph Bowser, color bearer; Mrs. Charles Law, Mrs. Anna Yorko, guard; Mrs. Blair Jones, Mrs. Jane Depp, Mrs. Daniel Law, historian. Back row: Mrs. James Gaston, banner bearer; Mrs. John Lester, flag bearer; Mrs. Ellen Barnett, Mrs. Clarence Colkitt; Mrs. Charles Turrizani Mrs. Alden Means, color bearer.

The present (1949) officers of this organization are: president, Mrs. Irvin Miller; senior vice president, Mrs. William Leax; junior vice president, Mrs. Wesley Kaleina; secretary, Mrs. Francis O'Keefe; treasurer, Mrs. Norman Beatty; and chaplain, Mrs. Lawrence Butler.

The local auxiliary helps to maintain the National Home, located at Eaton Rapids, Michigan, for the benefit of the wives and orphans of all veterans of foreign wars. It helped build the Roscoe B. Jackson Cencer Research Laboratory at Bar Harbor, Maine, and it is now helping to equip the library of the laboratory. Each year this organization donates to the Scotland School and V. A. hospitals. In the community, the auxiliary sponsors essay contests in the schools and takes an active part in every deserving project.

The past presidents of the Auxiliary are: Mrs. Clay Kanouff, Mrs. Francis O'Keefe, Mrs. Hamilton Smith, Mrs. Lee Rosenberger, Mrs. Clyde Depp, Mrs. Lee Depp, Mrs. Mina Bortz, Mrs. Daniel Law, Mrs. James Gaston, Mrs. Murray Anderson, Mrs. Homer Dunmire, and Mrs. Jesse Cramer. The members of the local auxiliary holding offices in District No. 19 are: senior vice president, Mrs. Francis O'Keefe; guard, Mrs. Reed Jordan; and deputy chief of staff, Mrs. Irvin Miller.

#### CAPT. E. H. LITTLE WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS

The Women's Relief Corps of Punxsutawney is an old but active organization. It dates back to August, 1889, when the plans for its foundation were laid. The wives and daughters of members of the Captain E. H. Little Post No. 237, Grand Army of the Republic, founded it as an auxiliary to the G.A.R. The charter of the corps was drawn on February 14, 1890. Its first officers were: Kate Laughlin Evans, president; Elizabeth Torrence, secretary, and Elizabeth Cooper, treasurer. There were approximately 35 charter members, of whom only Mrs. Marilla Salsgiver and Mrs. Della Johnston are (1949) living.

The corps was founded and named in honor of Captain E. H. Little, the only officer from this area killed in line of duty in the Civil War. It is interesting to note that Captain Little, commander of Company I of the 62nd Regiment, fell at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863.

In January, 1890, the Pennsylvania Memorial Home for old soldiers and their families was opened in Brookville. Formerly it was the Hotel Longview, which had been used for about two years as a summer hotel. The buildings, furniture, fixtures, and equipment, together with six acres of land surrounding the house, and 25 acres of farm land (since sold) were purchased for \$30,000. The Women's Relief Corps of the state contributed a large quantity of clothing and other necessities, and over \$20,000 toward its cost. The purpose of the Women's Relief Corps is to carry on patriotic and charitable work associated with this home. There are 27 elderly ladies in the home now.

The Punxsutawney Corps, which has 216 members, is one of the largest in the state. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall. Any woman of good character who is 16 years of age or over is eligible and invited to join. The officers for 1949 are: Mrs. Laura McGonagle, president; Mrs. Cora Kramer, secretary; Mrs. Violet Jones, treasurer. Each member pays \$1 a year as dues. Other necessary funds are raised by food sales, bazaars, and other projects sponsored by the members.

This benevolent society, the Women's Relief Corps, is certainly a worthwhile one that has remained active during its long period of existence.

(This information on the Women's Relief Corps was obtained from the *Punxsutawney Spirit*, Industrial Edition, May, 1900, and through the courtesy of Mrs. Lou Miller, Mrs. Della Johnston, Mrs. Myra Van-Dyke and Mrs. Margaret Taladay.)

Punxsutawney's first election was held May 5, 1857.





WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS—First row: Mrs. Evelyn Allenbaugh, Mrs. Dorothy Smouse, Mrs. Mary Hall, Mrs. Violet Jones, Mrs. John Lester, Mrs. Laura McGonagle, Mrs. Annie Mooney, Mrs. Margaret Taladay, Mrs. Cora Cramer, Mrs. Minnie Hoover, Mrs. Mae McElwain. Second row: Mrs. Betty Jordan, Mrs. Maybelle Beatty, Mrs. Marie Johnson, Mrs. Wilda Wise, Mrs. Margaret Potts.

## EIGHT AND FORTY SALON

La Boutique des Huit Chapeaux (Eight and Forty) Jefferson County Salon No. 427 was organized in August, 1948, by a number of leading American Legion Auxiliary women.

The first Marche was held September 20, 1948, at the home of Mrs. Stanley Kahle in Reynoldsville. Departmental Chapeau Mr. A. P. Sundry was in charge of the Marche assisted by Departmental Secretaire Vada B. Reese and Partners of McKean County Salon No. 282 and Indiana County Salon No. 368.

The charter for the salon was signed by Sara N. Blake, Bernice V. Brown, Nina R. Kahle, Mable M. Leech, Helen E. Maloney, Hazel M. Phillips, Pearle E. Richards, Winifred A. Ripple, Ruth M. Sallade, Louise V. Steiner, Maude G. Straitiff, Catherine D. Tait, and Gladys M. Thomas.

The following partners (members) were elected to office to serve the first year: Nina Kahle, of Reynoldsville, le petit chapeau; Gladys Thomas, of Punxsutawney, le demi petit chapeau; Mable Leech, of Brookville, le demi petit chapeau deuzieme; Ruth Sallade, of Reynoldsville, la secretaire-treasure; Bernice Brown, la aumonier; Catherine Tait, la archiriste; Louise Steiner, la superintendante, and Helen Maloney, la concierge, all of Punxsutawney.

These officers were installed by Departmental Chapeau Sundry, and she also conducted the initiation of partners and presentation of charter.

The objects of Eight and Forty, as set forth in its constitution are fun, fellowship and service, such service to be particularly concerned with child welfare and assistance to World War orphans, and contribution to and participation in the programs of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. A definite assignment in child welfare work was made to Eight and Forty by the National Child Welfare Executive Committee in November, 1932, in the field of juvenile tuberculosis prevention. Membership in Eight and Forty is limited to women of the American Legion Auxiliary who have been members in

good standing for at least three years and who have, in the judgment of salons departmentaux and petits salons, qualified for membership in Eight and Forty by outstanding service to the American Legion Auxiliary.

The first months of the salon have been active ones. It has held marche every month and in every one of them the members have found their fun and fellowship.

The members have adopted an orphan in Malvern Hospital and have sent him clothing and gifts which is part of the service.

The organization now has 18 members and includes the following who were initiated after the salon had its charter: Dorothy Atkinson, Fay Dougherty, Mildred Mambuca, Mrs. George Preston and Helen Rishel.

## MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS

### THE AMERICAN LEGION MALE CHORUS

The American Legion Male Chorus was founded in November, 1947, by Ernest Young, then the post commander. The original chorus consisted of ten Legionnaires, who were supported by Mrs. Lucille Scava, directress, and George Dana, accompanist. The chorus is entirely supported by the local Legion Post.

In February, 1948, the original chorus opened its membership to other singers. At that time, the chorus obtained the services of Gordon Clark of this city as director. Soon the membership increased, and before long a delightful program was presented to the townspeople. Later the chorus gave a concert at a district Legion meeting in New Bethlehem, Pa. The response was gratifying as invitations were extended to the chorus to appear before many organizations. When Mr. Clark resigned his position of director, he was succeeded by Donald Roderick, of Grange, Pa.



The first public appearance under his direction was made in November, 1948, at Deshon Hospital in Butler, Pa., before an audience of 4,500 patients. The chorus now has a membership of 35 with two quartets and several soloists. Ernest Young is the present chairman. The committees are assisted by Mr. Roderick and Fred Levy, the librarian. In September, 1948, the chorus obtained the services of Carl Hollenbaugh as accompanist. Many local concerts are contemplated along with engagements in nearby communities. (Information obtained from Fred Levy and Ernest Young.)

### THE CHORAL SOCIETY

The Choral Society was organized in February, 1943, under the sponsorship of the Punxsutawney Choir Directors Association.

Each year is started with a banquet. The new officers, including a librarian, president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, are elected and a membership committee is also appointed at this banquet. The committee in selecting new members follows a definite procedure. The name of a candidate must be submitted by a member of the group to the list of recommendations. This list is held over from year to year and a name is not removed unless by request. Second, at the beginning of the season new members are elected to the vacancies. Third, from a list of recommendations, the group selects by ballot those whom they prefer. Those receiving the highest number of votes are interviewed, first, to see whether they qualify, and second, to see whether they have time to attend the meetings. The Choral Society has no age limit, but prefers persons who are at least juniors in high school because by this time voices are more developed and mature.

Recently new vestments and music were purchased with money received from dues and free will offerings. During the course of five years the society has established a music department in the Punxsutawney Free Library. In this department are between 40 and 45 selections: cantatas, sacred, and secular numbers. These selections are for the use of any group in the community.

From six to 10 concerts are given during and concert season, which lasts from April to November. The society has appeared at the Aspinwall Veterans Hospital three times, at Elwood City four times, and at Port Allegheny twice. They have also sung at Sharon, Kane, New Bethlehem, Vandergrift, Altoona, Reynoldsville, New Kensington and Ridgway, Pa.

Mrs. Lucille Van Brunt Scava is director; Mrs. Lawrence MacNamara, organist until the end of the 1948 season, when she resigned; and Mrs. Franklin Zeitler, pianist, who also resigned at the conclusion of the 1948 season. Carl Hollenbaugh has succeeded them and officiates at either organ or piano.

### THE COOPERATIVE CONCERT SOCIETY

The Cooperative Concert Society was originally established in Punxsutawney during 1938 and was continued through 1939. The artists presented in the programs for these two seasons included Ezia Rachlin, pianist; John Brounlee, a popular Metropolitan Opera baritone; Natalie Bodanya, Metropolitan Opera soprano; Marjorie Edwards, 15-year-old violinist; Ernest Mchesuty, concert tenor, and Vaudy Cape, tenor.

At the conclusion of the second season the concerts were discontinued until the organization in 1946 of the Community Concert Association. (Information from Mrs. Sutton Hamilton, Mrs. N. S. Scava.)



PUNXSUTAWNEY'S FIRST BRASS BAND—Organized 1868—Left to right: W. B. Means, George Campbell, H. C. Bair, W. C. Torrence, F. Muller, D. S. Altman, O. H. Brady, John Drumm, and Prof. John C. Smith, leader.

### PUNXSUTAWNEY'S COMMUNITY BANDS

Punxsutawney's first band was organized in 1870 under the leadership of Professor Smith. This band existed until 1875, when it was completely replaced by new members. The second community band, dating from 1876, was the most famous and noted in the history of Punxsutawney. Under the leadership of Frank Graff, it was composed of the following members: Messrs. O. and G. Graff, J. and L. Mitchell, Myers, Faulkner, Sanson, Stratton, Munger, Boney, Hughes and Frampton. The band gained recognition at the centennial held in Philadelphia, Pa., 1876. Later, in the same year it was made the regimental band of the State Militia, taking part in the quelling of riots and other uprisings that grew out of a strike in Pittsburgh, Pa. This band existed until 1891, under the direction of Mr. Numire, Mr. Frank Graff, Mr. Leiber, and Mr. G. Graff, respectively.

Although Punxsutawney had no band for the following eleven years, the "Citizens' Band" was organized in 1902, with Mr. Houtan as director. In 1909, the band, with Carl Jordan as manager, J. B. Eberhart as president, and E. S. Swartz as treasurer, was led by Dorsey Neal. At this time Fred Warren, now of Hubbard, Ohio, was one of the outstanding musicians. Mr. Neal remained in the capacity of director until he was called to war in 1918.

In 1923 the band was under the leadership of Rev. Kitchin, with Mr. Way as manager. After Rev. Kitchin, Mike Cammerata served as director, followed by Henry I. Wilson. Next in line was Bert Grazier, who was the last director before the band died out in 1928 and 1929. After this period of time the band again organized with Carl Grazier as leader, followed by Paul Means and later Phil Kester, who maintained the position until 1943.

Although no band existed for the following five years, the "Punxsutawney Community Band" reorganized during the summer of 1948 again under the capable direction of Dorsey Neal.

Among the boys and girls of pioneer days a full half of the games enjoyed were kissing games and the kissing was usually done to songs provided by everybody in the game and bystanders as well.



## THE PUNXSUTAWNEY COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION

A handful of music lovers met in the small dining room of the Pantall Hotel at 8 o'clock p. m., November 19, 1946, to organize the Punxsutawney Community Concert Association. Harold Welch, of Community Concert Service of Columbia Concerts, Inc., was the organizer. The following officers and board of directors were elected: Executive Committee: W. Ross Startzell, president; Miss Jeannette Gall and Mrs. George Gibson, vice presidents; Miss Esther Jane Davis, secretary; Paul Strang, treasurer; Mrs. George Gibson, general chairman; Mrs. S. S. Hamilton, assistant; Mrs. Franklin Zeitler, headquarters secretary; Mrs. Howard Freas, dinner chairman; Mrs. Blanche Chapman, appointments chairman; Ned Winslow, publicity; Mrs. W. H. Hanchett, concert presentation chairman. Board of Directors: Mrs. N. S. Scava, William Shick, Mrs. A. G. Rosenthal, Mrs. Ivan Logue, Mrs. H. A. Philliber, Mrs. Kenneth Rundel, Mrs. John Sargent, Mrs. Ralph Hargraves, Mrs. W. H. Hampton, Orvis Hoffman, Mrs. J. M. Williams, Mrs. T. R. Stull, and the officers.

The first membership campaign was held the week of January 13-8, 1947. Almost 500 joined the Community Concert Association the first year. The following artists were presented in the F. S. Jackson Building auditorium: Feb. 26, 1947, Constance Keene, pianist; March 17, 1947, Mac Morgan, baritone; May 8, 1947, The Trapp Family, singers.

The second membership campaign was held the week of May 19-24, 1947. New members were added to the association and these artists were chosen for the 1947-48 season: Nov. 17, 1947, Platoff Don Cossacks; Dec. 3, 1947, Angel Reyes, violinist; Feb. 4, 1948, John Sebastian, harmonica virtuoso.

The third successful membership campaign was conducted May 10-15, 1948. Over 675 joined the Community Concert Association. The artists for the 1948-49 season included: Nov. 30, 1948, De Paur's Infantry Chorus; Feb. 23, 1949, William Schatzkamer, pianist; April 19, 1949, Nan Merriman, mezzo soprano.

The association is organized on a membership basis. Each member pays annual dues and is thus entitled to attend all of the concerts (in his own and other communities) presented by the association each season without additional cost. All money paid into the association is spent for artists, attractions, and local expenses incident to their presentation in concert.

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors for 1948-49 are: Executive Committee: W. Ross Startzell, president; Mrs. A. G. Rosenthal, Mrs. George Gibson, vice presidents; Miss Esther Jane Davis, secretary; George W. Naylor, treasurer; Mrs. George Gibson, general chairman; Mrs. S. Sutton Hamilton, assistant; Mrs. Howard Freas, dinner chairman; Mrs. W. H. Hanchett, concert chairman; Mrs. Franklin Zeitler, headquarters secretary; Ned Winslow, publicity chairman; Mrs. Ivan Logue, appointments chairman. Board of Directors: Mrs. N. S. Scava, Dr. Roger Longwell, W. H. Hampton, Jr., Mrs. Ivan Logue, Mrs. T. R. Stull, Miss Grace Davis, Walter Morris, Mrs. Kenneth Rundel, Mrs. John Sargent, Mrs. Ralph Hargraves, J. M. Williams, William Shick, Miss Orveta McClelland, Mrs. Frank Garnow, Mrs. Alva Cole, Mrs. Josef Jordan.

Clayville was made a borough in 1864.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### THE ALUMNI PLAYERS

The Alumni Players was organized in the spring of 1938 by a group of former high school Thespians, whose interest in dramatics did not die with graduation from high school.

The charter members of the group were Pauline Bland Curry, Ruth Farrell Fullerton, Josephine Stear Hauck, Ethel Ellenberger Ballin, Dorothy Amundson Lear, Mary Straitiff Crissman, Betty Stear Long, Eugene P. Curry, Theo W. Fullerton, Charles E. Hauck, George Crissman, Jr., Richard Hampson and Ray Caylor.

The purpose of the organization was to further the dramatic interests of the community; and to use the proceeds of each play for some worthy school cause.

The first production of the Alumni Players, a three-act comedy, "We Girls," was given May 10 and 11, 1938. It was directed by Miss Marjorie Kostenbader of the high school faculty, and starred Ethel Ellenberger Ballin, Dorothy Amundson Lear and Richard Hampson. It was given as a benefit for Donald Goldthwaite, an injured high school wrestler, who was hospitalized at that time.

The group presented another three-act comedy November 3 and 4, 1938. "Try It With Alice" was directed by Miss Marjorie Kostenbader. Betty Stear Long had the feminine lead and Richard Hampson and Eugene Curry had the male leads.

The third production, "Big Hearted Herbert," was given October 19 and 20, 1939. It was directed by Miss Margaret C. Boles of the high school faculty. George Crissman, Jr., and Dorothy Amundson Lear had the leads.

During the Christmas seasons of 1938 and 1939 the Players sponsored Christmas carol sings in Barclay Square.

The proceeds of the second and third productions were used to purchase foot lights and baby spot lights for the high school stage, and to buy mirrors, dressing tables and benches for the dressing rooms.

The last production of the Alumni Players, "The Bishop Misbehaves," was given November 19 and 20, 1940. Clair Strawcutter played the very difficult part of the Bishop to perfection. Since this play Clair has majored in dramatics in college, and each summer works with a Little Theatre group. William H. Hampton directed this play.

"The Bishop Misbehaves" was given as a benefit for the Adrian Hospital Auxiliary, which received a substantial sum therefrom.

Increasing family obligations of the members precluded any further productions by the Alumni Players group, which has been inactive since that time.

### BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers was organized in Punxsutawney July 1, 1903, by William Reese under the name, the Wm. Reese Division, No. 619. The nine charter members were: C. E. Hunter, Fred Rowland, F. H. Babcock, James Blaisdel, J. P. Sheldon, Robert Jones, E. J. Ford, D. B. Fawcett, and W. S. Riley. The organization has grown from the original nine members to a membership of 102 as of 1949. Of these members, 53 are engineers, seven are demoted engineers; 19 are firemen, and 23 are honor-



any members. The honorary members are those who have taken their pensions, and these members pay no dues. The dues are: engineers, \$4 per month; firemen, \$1.50 per month; demoted engineers, \$2.50 per month. The present officers are: the local chairman, H. C. Baird; the chief engineer, I. M. Kephart; secretary-treasurer, Arnold J. Reams. The meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month in the I.O.O.F. lodge rooms on West Mahoning Street.

The local chairman handles all problems. It is his job to add or deduct engine crews as the miles call for. The chief engineer takes charge of all meetings and conducts them in an orderly fashion. The secretary-treasurer handles all money used in any way by the organization and is required to keep a record of all meetings. There is also an insurance department in the lodge. There are at present 30 members who are active and carry insurance.

"The purpose of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is, to combine the interests of locomotive engineers and other men in engine service who are now, or may hereafter become eligible to membership in this organization. It should elevate their social, moral and intellectual standing, guard their financial interests, and promote their general welfare. Its cardinal principle is sobriety, truth, justice, and morality. The organization shall do all within its power to guarantee the fulfillment of every contract made in its name by the use of every power vested in it, from the constitution and by-laws handbook of the Grand International Division."

The platform of this organization is to work for more healthful and sanitary conditions for locomotive engineers, to stimulate the political education of the members to understand their political rights and to use the ballot intelligently.

#### AUXILIARY TO B. OF R. T.

The Ladies' Auxiliary No. 67 of the B. of R. T. was organized April 19, 1899, with these charter members: Margaret Allen, Mary Duff, Mary Peterson, Sophronia Thomas, Mary Tracey, Mauda George, Bertha Pringle, Bertha Webber, Lettitia DeRaud and Bridget Thurston.

This organization meets once a month for a business meeting and once a month for a social evening and will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year with a banquet and special entertainment.

Being an insurance order, the members have fraternal insurance.

The auxiliary colors are red, white and green and the order's flower is the white rose.

#### BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD SIGNALMEN OF AMERICA—Local No. 31, B. & O. Railroad

There are about 50 men employed in the Signal Department on the Buffalo Division of the B. & O. Railroad, formerly the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway. Usually there are two men stationed at headquarters; namely, the signal maintainer and his assistant. There are 13 locations on the Buffalo Division.

There are two constructive gangs on the Buffalo Division, one at DuBois and one at Rochester, N. Y. These men are modernizing and improving upon present signal apparatus, as well as installing signals at highway crossings for public safety.

As noted above, the men employed in signal work are in a class by themselves, and, for various reasons, the signalmen do not have a local union at every point on the railroad where only a few men are stationed. The signalmen of the Buffalo Division are affiliated with the signalmen on the Eastern Lines of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Without any designated point as headquarters, meetings are held once a month at various points on each division. Men are elected for each division to offices in local unions. In this way, responsibility is divided equally over the entire Eastern Region. E. R. Gahagan, of Warsaw, N. Y., is chairman of the Buffalo Division; A. T. Alexis, of Punxsutawney, is a member of the board of trustees.

#### THE CORNCOB CLUB

The Corncob Club, which was organized in 1881, is the oldest purely social club in Punxsutawney. It was organized for social enjoyment and its membership represents the business and professional men of the community. The club, which meets yearly, has a membership of 24 men. A new member is elected to the club only at the death of a member.

Charter members were: D. William Altman, D. S. Altman, John C. Grier, R. W. Dinsmore, H. W. Schoch, R. C. Winslow, Wm. Torrence, John Calderwood, J. M. Beyer, Dr. W. F. Beyer, C. Miller. W. A. Dunlap, of Indiana, Pa., was the only out-of-town member ever elected into the club. The Corncob Club has no initiation fees or dues. At their annual outing, the members enjoy a standard repast of: chicken, corn on the cob, and apple pie with cheese. The club has met every year since the time of its origin, excepting one year during World War I and one year (1943) during World War II.

The present day club follows the same rules and pattern as the original organization. The officers are: E. S. Swartz, president; Ned Winslow, secretary.

At the next meeting of the club, five new members will be elected. These men will take the places of Fred W. Beyer, Robert W. Criss, George Crissman, Banks W. Young, and P. L. Brown, who have died since the annual meeting in 1948. At the time of his death, Mr. Criss was treasurer.

The president, Mr. Swartz, who is the oldest living member of the club, was elected in the place of Charles Brewer, who died many years ago.

#### THE PUNXSUTAWNEY CLUB

The Punxsutawney Club was instituted about 1890, seven years after the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway established its headquarters in this city. The original members included L. W. Robinson, A. W. Calloway, B. M. Clark, Hiram Reese, Adam Knarr and Frank Lang, all of whom are deceased. L. W. Robinson and Frank Lang were among the first officers. This organization, which was social in nature, was the first club in this city to have its own meeting rooms. These rooms were in the old Shields building where the present Eagles Lodge now stands. In 1912 the club moved into new rooms in the Punxsutawney National Band building, and still later monthly meetings were held in the Elks building. At present, the members meet at intervals in the summer home of Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, near Frostburg.



Present members include: Dr. J. P. Benson, W. C. Tibby, Ellis G. Rodkey, Dr. M. D. Rentschler, Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, George C. Brown and P. L. Smith. (Information from G. C. Brown and P. L. Smith.)

## PUNXSUTAWNEY COUNTRY CLUB

The Punxsutawney Country Club is a strong and a very active organization. It was first organized in 1900 by Dr. Frank Lorenzo, Jesse W. Whiteman, "Brick" Preston, Earl (Count) Snyder, and William Bartholomew. It was planned for the benefit of the people who wanted to play golf and who would help support this organization. J. H. Kennedy was the first local man to join the club after the charter members had organized it.

The club was started when Dr. Lorenzo and his four companions bought the 110-acre farm from L. W. Robinson, manager of the R. & P. Coal and Iron Co., for the sum of \$3,500. At that time, the club did not have a large income. As a result, tin cans were used for the holes, and sand for the greens.

The club house was built by subscription. Anyone living in or near town who became interested would donate something to help build the clubhouse. For example, Albert Mitchell, a local plumber, put in the piping for the showers and also the watering systems for the greens. It was not until August 22, 1904, that the clubhouse and the course were in good shape, ready to be used by the members. Dr. Lorenzo acted as president of the original country club.

The Country Club has grown into a large organization since 1900, and has taken in about 350 members. The dues are now \$84 a year. Harry A. Batastini is the 1949 president of the Country Club, Joseph Crissman, vice president, and E. E. Wells, the secretary-treasurer. The board of directors meets monthly at the clubhouse on North Main Street.

Here are some interesting facts that have been found in Ripley's *Believe It or Not* column concerning this organization. The Punxsutawney Country Club is the only club that has its golf course lying next to the main street. It is interesting to note that the Country Club has half of its grounds inside the borough and the other half outside the city limit. This club is also the fifth oldest of its kind in Pennsylvania.

The Punxsutawney Country Club has come to be one of the foremost organizations in the area.

(Sources of information: Dr. Lorenzo, Dr. Lenhart, *Believe It Or Not* column.)

## THE PUNXSUTAWNEY GROUNDHOG CLUB

### THE PUNXSUTAWNEY GROUNDHOG

He stands supreme,  
imitated but unchallenged,  
envied but acknowledged,  
King of the Weather Prophets  
Lord High Potentate of all Marmota monax,  
and Wejack Extraordinary  
(By Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, President)

The origin of the groundhog myth is based on an old Scotch couplet:

"If Candelmas Day is bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year."

The Roman legions during the conquering of the northern country brought this myth to the Teutons

or Germans who picked it up and concluded that if the sun was out on February 2nd, which is known as Candelmas Day an animal (or any animal) would cast a shadow.

Pennsylvania's earliest settlers were Germans and they found groundhogs in profusion in this State. They decided that if the sun shone on February 2nd so wise an animal as the groundhog would see its shadow and would hurry back to his hole to remain for another six weeks, which the Pennsylvania Germans interpolated as the length of the "second winter."

Here in Punxsutawney, groundhog has long been considered a delicacy if properly prepared. So, as far back as 1886, a few of the Punxsutawneyites began to celebrate each year and feast on groundhog. They hid themselves into the woods to celebrate the weather prognosticator.

The Editor of the Punxsutawney Spirit, then a weekly newspaper, started to refer to the feasters as the Groundhog Club, which in all probability, proved to be the nucleus of the present Punxsutawney Groundhog Club having thousands of members.

The city editor of *The Spirit*, (Clymer H. Freas) placed the Weather Works in Punxsutawney, insisting that only the Punxsutawney Groundhog, (The Seer of Gobbler's Knob) could properly interpolate a shadow, that all others were imposters and upon this proposition invited celebrities from far and near to Punxsutawney, "The Weather Capital of the World," on the occasion of the annual hunt and feast of the Groundhog Club. Newspapers throughout the nation picked it up and it continues today with proper ceremony and pomp.

Each year on February 2nd, Weather Scouts from the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club visit Gobbler's Knob to hold an interview with the Groundhog and record the "shadow cast."

An indoor dinner is then held in the evening of February 2nd, to celebrate and honor the great prognosticator of Gobbler's Knob, who has proven beyond a doubt that he is the greatest prognosticator of the ages.

This dinner on February 2nd has been limited to the officers of the organization and their wives and sweethearts, the reason being, that they were never able to have a building large enough to extend invitations to all the members. However, this is augmented by the annual outdoor celebration which takes place sometime in August of each year when all active associate and honorary members participate in a day-long outing honoring the High Potentate of all weather prophets.

Yearly, they enjoy themselves with high class entertainment, the meeting of all good fellows and a culminating dinner composed of spring chicken, groundhog, corn on the cob, apple pie, etc., and liquids for digestive purposes.

Unfortunately, during the period of the war emergency, these celebrations were curtailed but beginning with 1946, the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club began to expand and invited the world to become members and participate in honoring the great weather prophet.

Naturally, as with all great things, attempts are made by others to try to cash in on the Groundhog fame. Of course, they have all fizzled.

The officers of the club are: Dr. F. A. Lorenzo, president; Arthur Eberhart, vice president; Robert Phil-



liber, secretary; I. Ray Bowers, treasurer. The directors are: Jay H. Freas, Otto Phillips, Dr. K. G. Lenhart and the officers above named. There are 25 "active" members of the club, who, with the directors, plan the annual outings.

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY HUNTING CLUB, INC.

During the year 1899, a group of Punxsutawney huckleberry pickers went to the Clearfield Mountains where berries were plentiful. In this group were James E. Brewer, James E. Greene, Jonathan Frampton, Andrew Reese, O. S. Reams and Harry Nickerson. They located a spring of water somewhat better than the ordinary springs. This was in Lawrence Township, Clearfield County. This spring was the incentive for these men to locate a hunting camp and that fall they pitched a tent near this source of drinking water and from these quarters they established a hunting camp. Deer and bear were scarce in those days, but these men were rewarded in later years by the stocking of deer by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

In 1900, these same sportsmen built a 16x20-foot building at this same location. This was the first Punxsutawney Camp. Later a spring house was built at the breast of the spring and over it, quarters were made for two beds; this took care of four more hunters. Soon the membership grew and the camp was enlarged, making both a first and second story. New members were Joseph L. Kurtz, L. R. Huth, Frank V. Stiver, Joseph Baumgartner, Sr., Thomas Alabran, William Coulter, L. C. McGaw, and Frank Greene.

In 1918, the club purchased from the Whitmer-Steele Company, Scranton, Pa., four warrants of land approximately 5,000 acres, this is the territory they had been using for deer hunting. In 1919, Punxsutawney Hunting Club was incorporated under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania laws. Many more members were added to the camp roster. They included Harvey G. Bowers, I. Ray Bowers, James Doncaster, Carl North, Earl North, S. K. Murray, Harvey Schlemmer, C. B. Gleckler, H. F. Weiss and H. Ward McQuown.

In 1921, Hon. H. G. Bowers built a three story stone house of the camp property near the original Punxsutawney Camp. It was used by this family as a summer home, and later sold to the club for use by its members for a vacation spot in the summer months, and as a hunting lodge during big game or deer season. This is known as the Bowers Camp.

In 1932, John Shoffner and John Fornoff, two members, built a modern log cabin; this building too was used for club members in the hunting season.

The membership continued to grow and it was necessary to use the annex built over the spring house as a camp and it was named L. C. McGaw Camp.

In 1942, a recreation building was added to the group of buildings by converting a former stable and garage into a room to show wildlife and other movies. It is also used for a meeting place for the club.

In 1944, a modern lodge was constructed by Charles Shoffner, now of Kittanning, Pa. This building also is occupied during the small game season and deer season by members of the club.

In 1947, another building was constructed by E. G. Stoner, a member living in Pittsburgh, Pa. This unit

is a modern two story house used by the Stoners as a summer home and during deer season eight or 10 members are comfortably housed for the annual hunt.

Lighting facilities grew from the candle to coil oil lamps, then to the farm type electric and light plants and in 1948 rural electrification was installed and now all camps are equipped with modern lighting.

Membership now numbers 90. Present officers are: Ben Levy, president; H. Ward McQuown, vice president; H. F. Weiss, secretary—all of Punxsutawney.

Punxsutawney and Kittanning members are numerous on the roster—other counties represented are Allegheny, Armstrong, Clarion, Efferson, Westmoreland, and Lancaster. One member is from New York State and one from Canada. All members either use the camps during small game and large game seasons or for family vacations and week-end parties in summer and fall months.

The Punxsutawney Hunting Club property truly is a beauty spot with its six camps, plenty of level land, good spring water, fish pond, and streams, laurel and rhododendron in season, lots of forest, and club members claim deer in "them thar mountains."

#### PUNXSUTAWNEY RAILROAD YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In the early fall of 1899 two traveling railroad secretaries of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, accompanied by John F. Dinkey, auditor of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway, brought to the attention of President A. G. Yates the practical nature of the work of the organization they represented and the opportunities for the establishment and successful operation at several division points on the up-to-date railway system.

From the first, President Yates manifested a keen interest in the plan submitted; and, before the conference concluded, assured his visitors that they could safely count upon the cordial cooperation of the railway corporation and its officials in making an experiment at DuBois, Pennsylvania; and further that, if this initial enterprise proved attractive and helpful to the company's employes and satisfactory in its conduct and results, there would probably be little difficulty in arranging for such further extension as might be desirable and necessary.

At the end of 10 years the Punxsutawney Association was established. In these buildings may be found all the well known privileges, typical of such railroad association buildings in all parts of the continent. These organizations are established for the comfort, convenience and welfare of the employes of the road, and for the extension of spirit of true brotherhood and of common service of railroad men one for another.

The following men comprised the first board of directors of the local association: George W. Stevenson, chairman; S. A. Reams, Clark Bargerstock, W. B. Blose, Owen O. Griffith. R. D. Emerick was the first general secretary.

The association is a provisional one, organized in accordance with the authority of the National Council by the International Committee, and governed by a board of directors.

Plans are going forward for the rehabilitation of the entire building. New equipment has been purchased at a cost of thousands of dollars.



There are 32 sleeping rooms, four bowling alleys and four showers.

The present board of directors includes: J. M. Coble, chairman; J. R. Freas, assistant superintendent, vice chairman, recording secretary, treasurer; H. T. Jack, agent; H. D. Graffious, superintendent; H. B. Hoyt, division engineer; L. R. Hasse, master mechanic; B. H. Johnson, trainmaster; N. F. Haag, engineer; O. O. Griffith, engineer E. J. Gourley, clerk; John Shermer, burgess of Punxsutawney; H. E. McIndoe, general secretary. (Information from H. E. McIndoe.)



W.C.T.U.—Lou Miller, treasurer; Mrs. John Lester, president; Mrs. T. I. Barnett, county president; Kathryn Barnett, vice president; Beulah Hargraves, secretary.

## WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

The Women's Christian Temperance Union is a group of Christian women who believe in and practice total abstinence. It is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, self-governing organization that is engaged in keeping young people from forming a hunger for alcoholic beverages; teaching the scientific fact that alcohol is a habit-forming narcotic drug; protecting the youth from the clutches of the liquor craze; creating a better understanding of the benefit, socially, of total abstinence; and extending to a greater number the opportunity to learn the truth about alcohol. The club's theme is "God in every home," and its symbol is a white bow which stands for purity.

In the year 1874, seven mothers met in the United Presbyterian Church at Bellview, which is now Stanton; and organized the first Women's Christian Temperance Union in Jefferson County. Their zeal, perseverance and loyalty were such that in 10 years they had 10 organizations, with 280 regular members and 98 honorary members.

The Punxsutawney W.C.T.U. was organized about

1878. Mrs. Mary Garffius, who later became its first president and served faithfully for 40 years, and Mrs. Jennie Dinsmore were mainly responsible for its inception. In 1916 this group had 52 members and was growing rapidly. Because of several differences of opinion, a group of women broke away and formed another union which they called the Frances Willard W.C.T.U. They had their own officers and held their own services. In a few years, however, this club went out of existence and its members were accepted by the original union. Mrs. Thomas I. Barnett served for a number of years as president of the local organization. However, in July, 1948, she resigned this office because of her heavy duties as county president. Mrs. John S. (Bessie) Lester was then elected president of the local chapter. The Punxsutawney W.C.T.U. now (1949) has a total of 125 paid members

The present officers are: Bessie Lester, president; Kathryn Barnett, first vice president; Nellie Braugher, second vice president; Mary Curry, corresponding secretary; Beulah Hargraves, recording secretary, and Lou Miller, treasurer.

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## RECREATION

Compiled by LOIS JORDAN

### THE PUNXSUTAWNEY CENTRAL Y.M.C.A.

During the past 40 years the local Y.M.C.A. has been serving the youth of Punxsutawney. Through its efforts, the spiritual and mental, as well as the physical and social growth of young people has been stimulated. The association continues to live up to its purpose of helping young people build Christian character, and develop the right habits and attitudes. The activities which are provided for the youth during those all important "get together hours" encourage cooperation, brotherhood, and Christian living and ideals. Through its program, the lives of boys and girls are moulded in the right way, and they become better and more useful citizens.

The local association, of which its members are proud, has been in existence for 58 years, having been organized in 1891. It did not become a chartered association, however, until April 27, 1907. The members first met in the Fackiner and Snyder buildings, and later in the Swartz building and the building now occupied by the State Employment Bureau.

J. H. Kennedy and E. T. Baer were the first president and secretary, respectively. The board of directors agreed to purchase the present site on North Findley Street, on May 7, 1907. A building campaign began, and the sum of \$50,000 was obtained by the sixth of October. McKean Harl was the building contractor. The Spirit Publishing Company bought fifty feet of the frontage from the association. The building was completed in 1909, with the dedication services and a union meeting of churches held on October 3. From then on, the building was open to community services. It is now known as the "Central Y."

The president of the Young Men's Christian Association of Punxsutawney is George C. Brown, who is now serving his 26th year in that capacity. J. Brady Marble is the general secretary, with Robert E. Fulton as physical director. The board of directors selects the employed office personnel consisting of the general secretary, office secretary, director of physical education, and the custodian. Open meetings are held some time during the third week of January.



Although the Central Y.M.C.A. and Railroad Y.M.C.A. are both part of the national Y.M.C.A. movement, they maintain a separate identity and type of work. The Railroad Y.M.C.A. offers a hotel and meeting place service for the B. & O. Railroad and employees of this community.

As in all other communities holding of membership of the many adults makes possible low membership rates to the different age groups of younger boys and girls. Sharing in the Community Chest Fund, additional income from store and dormitory room rents, bowling alley and other earnings make possible an annual operating budget of \$20,000. This enables the association to supply membership as low as \$3.00 that actually cost \$25.00 each to maintain.

Many persons not members of the Y.M.C.A. enjoy its privileges. Of the aggregate attendance of 72,000, upon its activities, more than two-thirds (of the persons) were not members.

The "Y" offers many kinds of recreation. Games such as checkers, ping-pong, table tennis, badminton, bowling, and handball are provided. Basketball, indoor baseball, and volleyball games are played in the gymnasium. Football and baseball are played at Harmon Field, the outdoor recreation center. Dances are held every Friday and Saturday nights for members and their friends. Special dances, such as those sponsored by the Tri-Hi-Y, are held, with a small fee being charged for admission. Previous to 1936, the "Y" had a swimming pool, but it was closed at that time because of the poor drainage system and bad sanitary conditions.

Girls and boys who belong to the "Y" organize teams of basketball, etc., and play other "Y" teams from nearby towns. Special teams are made for "Y" members in different age groups. The first group consists of members who are nine and ten years of age, and is called the Tyro team. Next is the Cadet team, for which the age specification is 11 and 12 years. Those from 13 to 14 are Juniors. The high school age group, which is next, takes in members from 15 to 17 years of age, inclusive. Those who are 18 or over are Seniors.

There are various sororities or sub-organizations of the Y.M.C.A. Two very active ones in Punxsutawney are the Tri-Hi-Y and the Hi-Y, for girls and boys respectively, of high school age. Each one has the junior and senior divisions. The Gra-Y Club is for younger girls in grade school. The Gradale Sorority, of which there are three different clubs, is for young women between the ages of 18 and 25. The Phalanx Fraternity is the young men's group of the same age. These groups are closely related to the Y.M.C.A. and have certain privileges concerning the Y.M.C.A. building. They are Christian organizations, and are under the supervision of the Y.M.C.A. Each group helps plan and cooperate with the association, plus having a share in its financial support.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Punxsutawney is a large and strong organization.

#### GEORGE C. BROWN SWIMMING POOL

In 1928 George C. Brown of the Punxsutawney Hardware Company provided \$17,000 for the construction of a Punxsutawney Community Swimming Pool, which was constructed in 1929. On July 5, 1929, at 2 o'clock, a program was planned for the dedication of the pool. Several selections were played

by the Melody Shoppe Boys' Band. Reverend H. F. Miller offered a prayer, and P. L. Smith, as chairman of the committee in charge of construction, gave a brief history of the construction of the pool, and presented the pool on behalf of the donor to the school board. In the brief statement, dedicating the pool to the community, Mr. Brown said:

"I have had in mind for several years that, at some time, I should like to do something for Punxsutawney and its neighbors. Most folks, who find anything to donate, leave it to their executors, but I decided it would be better to do it now and allow the present crowd of young folks, and that includes all of you, to enjoy it from now on, rather than wait another 50 years. In presenting this pool to you I want you to know I am making a practical payment for the tremendous benefit and pleasure I have had in being privileged to live in this community with you. I hope you will enjoy swimming in it as much as I will enjoy watching you. Here it is, it's yours and I hope you like it."

Now (1949) during the summer months, the pool is under the supervision of the local Y.M.C.A. Those pool expenses which the Y.M.C.A. cannot meet, the school board pays. An admission is charged for regular swim periods, but the pool has been the scene of water festivals, free swimming instruction classes, and Red Cross life saving courses as well as other varied activity. (Information obtained from July 1-3, 1929 issues of *Punxsutawney Spirit*.)

#### BOY SCOUTS

The Boy Scouts of America is a national organization for boys nine years of age and over for the purpose of promoting, through organization and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in citizenship, leadership and development of character.

Scouting was first introduced in Punxsutawney by William Powell in 1909. Mr. Powell came to this community as superintendent of the Weber Memorial School. Having in his possession a manual of Scouting prepared by the founder of this movement in England, Lord Baden-Powell, he organized the first Scout troop in this area one year prior to the official adoption of Scouting in America. This, Punxsutawney's first troop of Boy Scouts, had a membership of some 75 boys and was led by William Powell, assisted by Blair and Earl Cessna. With the adoption of a national organization, this troop continued to flourish and during the First World War performed numerous civic and community wide services aiding in the collection of scrap, the selling of Liberty Bonds, etc. Nelson Miller, a charter member of this troop, eventually became an assistant Scoutmaster and is still active as a troop committeeman of the present day Troop No. 47, Punxsutawney.

Following the First World War, Scouting not only continued to grow in Punxsutawney, but expanded to the neighboring communities of Juneau, Albion, Anita, Smyerstown, Rossiter, Sydney, Cloe and Marchand, a total of 17 troops by 1930.

With the introduction of Cub Scouting, for boys of ages nine to eleven, our community was again most progressive and founded packs in 1934 in Punxsutawney and Adrian. Cub Scouting soon passed from the scene, and it was 1947 before this program for younger boys was re-established and firmly so.



During the later years of the depression and the early years of World War II, Scouting in the Punxsutawney area met with adverse times. In 1940 there was but one active troop, Troop 48, sponsored by the Evangelical United Brethren Church, James Beatty, Sr., Scoutmaster. This troop of 30 boys kept alive the Scouting spirit and performed numerous services to the community during the war years by acting as messengers in the civilian defense organization, collectors of scrap metal and newspapers, distributors of posters and varied and sundry other duties and good turns.

The present day organization of Scouting was re-born with the coming of peace in 1945. We now have twelve troops and five Cub packs, constituting 350 boys, that make up the Mahoning Valley District of the William Penn Council, located in the following communities: Troop 14, Marion Center, Eugene Miller, Scoutmaster; Troop 40 and Pack 40, Glen Campbell, Rev. Lester H. Norton, Scoutmaster and Cubmaster; Troop 42, Trade City, Guy Gamble, Scoutmaster; Troop 43, Punxsutawney, Gerald Esposito, Scoutmaster; Troop 44, Punxsutawney, Harry Conley, Jr., Scoutmaster; Pack 44, Punxsutawney, Alva White, Cubmaster; Troop 45, Punxsutawney, E. J. Groves, Scoutmaster; Pack 45, Punxsutawney, Rev. Ivan J. Koonce, Cubmaster; Troop 46, Walston, Joseph Petrone, Scoutmaster; Troop 47, Punxsutawney, Clair Meneely, Scoutmaster; Troop 48, Punxsutawney, James Beatty, Sr., Scoutmaster; Troop 49, Rossiter, LeRoy Rodgers, Scoutmaster; Troop 50, Cloe, Lowry Dilts, Scoutmaster; Pack 50, Cloe, Carl Barr, Cubmaster; Troop 77, Dayton, William Hallman, Scoutmaster; Pack 77, Dayton, William Barton, Cubmaster.

The Mahoning Valley District Committee which directs the activities of the Scouts of this area is composed of a group of prominent local business men and one professional Field Scout Executive. They are: Eugene S. Fry, district committee chairman; Gerald Carrier, organization and extension; Dr. R. E. Mateer, health and safety; E. J. Groves, advancement; Robert Philliber, finance; Josef Jordan, camping and activities; George Crissman, Jr., leadership training; William A. Davison, field Scout executive, and Roy E. Miller, Jr., district Scout commissioner.

### THE GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Ruth Taylor Davis Class of the Presbyterian Church, was reorganized in September, 1946, under the direction of Mrs. Arthur Weiss. The first investiture was held October 17, 1946, in the Presbyterian Church. At that time Troop 1 invested 23 girls. The Girl Scouts grew from this intermediate troop to two intermediate troops, two brownie troops, and one senior troop.

Each fall there is a Girl Scout cookie sale and a Girl Scout calendar sale. Each spring the Girl Scouts exhibit their achievements of the winter in a local store window. The troops meet once a week. One night a month is devoted to music under the direction of Mrs. Ray Caylor and Mrs. Joseph Jordan.

The present (1949) leaders of the Punxsutawney troops are: Troop 1, Miss Anne Barkley and Mrs. Alva White; Troop 2, Miss Neva Diehl, Miss Marjorie Dickson and Miss Ruth Hamil; Troop 3, Miss Myrna Depp and Mrs. James Kinter; Troop 4, Mrs.

Charles Cappazo and Mrs. Otis McMeans; and Troop 5, Mrs. Richard Jones and Miss Francis London.

### THE COMMUNITY RECREATION PROGRAM

The Community Recreation Program was organized in Punxsutawney in the summer of 1947 under the supervision of Clarence L. Binney, a director of physical education in the Punxsutawney High School. The purchase of playground equipment, including three sliding boards, four sets of 15-foot swings, one large pull-away merry-go-round, four sand boxes, two sets of teeter-totters, two tennis sets, four volleyball nets, and numerous baseballs, softballs, and bats, was made possible through state financial aid, paper drives, benefit baseball games, house-to-house canvassing, and a tag day.

### INDEPENDENT SPORTS

Baseball, the most intricate and confusing of all games on the American sports scene, has long dominated the independent sports picture in Punxsutawney. It has produced more stars who went on to join the ranks of national heroes in America's favorite pastime than any other sport.

Basketball holds second place in independent prominence, with football as a poor third in any listing of the major sports. Softball, bowling, tennis, and golf rate far ahead of the gridiron game.

Punxsutawney's private Baseball Hall of Fame glitters with the names of seven stars, including two who went on to reach the goal of every professional player—the world series. The list includes Mike Ryba, Lee Gamble, Steve Shiock, Nick Goulish, Frank Rapp, Harry Gessler, and A. G. McBride. Ryba and Gamble made appearances in the world series, Ryba as a pitcher with the Boston Red Sox in 1946, and Gamble in the role of a pinch hitter with the Cincinnati Reds in 1939.

A baseball hotbed since before the turn of the century, Punxsutawney has played a leading role in developing fine teams down through the years. Long before football rivalry rose to a fever pitch between Punxsutawney and DuBois, baseball teams from both places carried on a no-holds-barred feud that matched anything Brooklyn and New York ever produced. Blazing spirit burned fiercely in such clubs as the Pollywogs, Punx'y Spirit, Punx'y Beef, Harls, South Side, Middletown, Punx'y Independents, Elk Run, Eddies, Punx'y Aggies and many more outfits that carried local banners to victory over the best in Western Pennsylvania. One of the super teams, Punx'y Electrics, swept to triumph so often during a four-year span, the club became known as probably one of the two best ever to spring from local diamonds. Included among the team's victims was a National League entry, the Pittsburgh Pirates. In 1934 the Electrics met and defeated Pie Traynor's Bucs, 4 to 2, at Light Field.

Many Punxsutawney players roamed minor league playing fields, but it remained for Mike Ryba to set the greatest pace. He was selected as the "most valuable player" in three different minor leagues—Western League, American Association and International League. The last two named are the last stop before entering the majors. Ryba went on to perform for the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League and the Boston Red Sox in the American League.



In 1946, after more than 20 years of professional baseball, Ryba walked to the mound as a Boston Red Sox relief hurler in the memorable 1946 world series lost by Boston to St. Louis, his old team, four games to three.

Lee Gamble was another local product who heard the roar of the crowd during world series competition. Gamble, one of the fastest men in the majors, was a member of the Cincinnati Reds in the 1939 series won by the New York Yankees. Later, he managed a minor league club, but retired from baseball in 1948. Ryba is still active as manager of the Scranton Miners, a Boston Red Sox farm club located in the Class A Eastern League. Veteran baseball observers predict he will some day lead a big league team.

Basketball, most popular winter sport from a spectator standpoint, is next only to baseball in independent prominence in Punxsutawney. The sport dates back to the early days of 1900, when a few independent teams campaigned in district circles. It was not until the late '20s and early '30's, however, that basketball leaped to the front rank of local sports. Great teams that met and defeated some of the finest opposition available fanned spectator and player interest to a new high. So great has basketball become in Punxsutawney during the past few years that baseball is hard pressed to hold its rating of No. 1 sport.

Independent football, except for a brief fling during the early '20's and '30's failed to make a dent on the local sports front until October of 1948, when Troy N. Beaver, prominent industrialist, coal operator and sportsman, backed a collection of former high school and college stars under the banner of Beaver Bombers. The team went through a six-game schedule without a victory, but crowds poured into Harmon Field to look on as the semi-pro sport boomed for the first time in two decades. Plans call for another edition of the Bombers in 1949.

Bowling, probably the No. 1 indoor sport for all age groups in the nation, has been part of Punxsutawney for more than 85 years. Prior to that, some evidence exists of bowling contests taking place on rolling green lawns.

The kegling sport has literally rolled its way to the front rank with a rush during the past 20 years. Men's and women's leagues add interest and color to the game. A 300 score, absolute perfection in bowling, has been approached by many, but by only the late M. D. Weed was the goal attained. Not once, but twice Weed crashed into kegling's Hall of Fame. Of late such teams as Sullivan's Irish Keglers, Army & Navy Club, Eagles and Murrays in the men's field, and Gerres, Murphys, and Galbraiths in the feminine ranks, have carried bowling to a new all-time high in its long history.

Golf, always part of the local scene, points with pride to Ken Stear, home grown and home developed, who won tournaments galore as a school boy. One of his top triumphs came in the West Penn Junior Amateur in Pittsburgh against a strong field. He has reigned off and on as Punxsutawney Country Club champion. It took able Dr. John Micks, 10 times Meadville Country Club king, and now a member of the Punxsutawney Country Club, to wrest the title from Stear.

Volleyball, swimming and ping-pong (table tennis) teams once flourished here. The war and general de-

cline of public interest towards these sports have relegated them to the sidelines for the time being. During the '30's tennis was a by-word among Punxsutawney sports fans. Inter-city matches were played with Indiana, Bradford, DuBois and other nearby towns.

## HARMON FIELD

About 1909 Mrs. Margaret Wilson became active in the promotion of a public playground; she was seconded by Mrs. T. R. Williams, who was the donor of the first fence surrounding these grounds, and by a group of interested citizens who became the incorporators of the property. Portions of the grounds were donated by the following: John P. Wilson, Frank C. Lang, John A. Weber, Jacob L. Fisher, and the Weber Memorial Association. \$1,200 for the purchase of the rest of the property was raised by subscriptions.

During a period of years activities were financed through the subscriptions of private citizens and through appropriations from the school funds by the board of school directors. There was, however, an accumulation of debt against the property, which was discharged through the effort of the Kiwanis Club and the generosity of the Harmon Foundation.

In 1927 the entire property was deeded to the school district in trust for the children of Punxsutawney to be held in perpetuity for recreation purposes. In 1933-34 various grants by the Public Works Administration made it possible to erect a new fence, enlarge and grade the grounds, build a running track, and erect bleachers. The work was under the supervision of George P. Grube.

In behalf of all the citizens who have supported the movement to establish this recreational center, and especially in behalf of the youth of Punxsutawney, the field was dedicated to the joys of childhood, the sports of youth, and the upbuilding of health through recreation in the open air.

## ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AT PUNXSUTAWNEY HIGH SCHOOL

### Football

Punxsutawney High School is extremely fortunate in that it has a wide variety of athletic activities. Perhaps the favorite of the sports in the high school is the season opener, football.

The first high school football team of modern times was organized in Punxsutawney High School in 1923. The first team was started largely through the efforts of the boys who later became members of the original team. Coach of the 1923 squad was Jake Troutman, with William F. Smith as assistant coach.

Lettermen on the first team of "pigskin luggers" were: Donald Kurtz, captain, Charles Hartman, Philip White, Ray Caylor, Thomas Knox, Andrew Zeedick, James Curry, William Harrick, Philmore Lettie, William Crissman and Charles Allison. Robert Brown was student manager.

Two Punxsutawney service clubs, the Kiwanis and the Rotary, provided funds for the purchase of the first uniforms. Games were played Saturday afternoons on Harmon Field. Punxsutawney High School's first football game was played with Big Run, September 29, 1923. Final score in that game was Punxsutawney 7, Big Run 0. James Curry scored the first touchdown and William Crissman, the first point after touchdown.



The first night game ever played by a P.H.S. team was at Bradford in 1934. Bradford won that game, 12-0. Lights were, however, installed at Harmon Field in the summer of 1939. Eight of the nine games played that year were home games under the newly installed lights. Proceeds from the first year's games were sufficient to pay for the new lights.

The highest score ever rolled up by a P.H.S. football team was in 1924, when Punxsutawney beat Barnesboro 75-0.

Punxsutawney High grid teams have had some really good years, but the best seasons' records were made by the 1928 and 1941 teams. In those two years the record stands at 9 games won, 0 games lost, and 1 game tied. Members of the 1928 team were: Theo Curry, Edwin Getsinger, Kenneth Haines, Edward Hall, Barclay Infantino, Ben Jones, John Lobaugh, Noah Treharne, William Brown, David Elder, Kenneth Rishell, Louis Roney, Florn Stear, and Ray Bloom. On the 1941 team were Lou Stello, Max Fetterman, Anthony Nace, James Scarantine, William Lavosky, Paul Anthony, James Means, Phil Jack, Richard Jones, James Couch, Robert Depp, George Hritz, Fred Lazorcak and Eugene Williams.

At the present time, the football record of P.H.S. is: 149 games won, 84 games lost, and 25 games tied.

An age-old rival of the Chucks is the DuBois Beavers. Any season is considered successful in the eyes of Punxsutawney High School sport fans if the Chucks are victors in the annual Armistice Day game. Punxsutawney and DuBois have played a total of 26 games. DuBois has won 15 of the games, P.H.S., 8, and 3 of the games ended with the score tied.

Current football officials at P.H.S. include: Ray R. Caylor, a member of the original team, athletic director; football coach, Joe Harrick; assistant coaches, Clifford Doney and Phil Jack; equipment manager, Melvin Mitchell; and Frank Basile, who is in charge of tickets.

#### *Basketball*

Basketball was first started in Punxsutawney High School during the season of 1908-1909. The first captain was Stanley Blose and squad members were: Fred Beyer, Robert Allison, Merle Zufall, Jay Putney, Ben Jones and Cyrus Quick.

During the first three seasons 28 games were played with 13 victories and 15 defeats. Punxsutawney tallied 572 points in three seasons, while their opposition scored 712. Among the victories was a 33-24 score over Brookville in 1909-1910.

In 1912-1913, the team lost only one of nine games played. During this season, the outstanding player was Lloyd Jordan, who later went on to become an all-time great at Pittsburgh University.

Punxsutawney High School competed in the Northwestern Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League, beginning in 1919-1920. They reached the semi-finals of a national invitation tournament in Chicago in 1920-1921. They won league titles in the years: 1924, '25, '28, '29, '30, and again in 1937, '38, '47, '48.

During the 1915-1916 season, Punxsutawney scored 821 points when the team consisted of: Thomas Bell, captain, Eugene McCreight, Lloyd Jordan, William Freas, Torrence Cutler, William Glenn and Merle Ellenberger.

Punxsutawney produced the first all-state player in 1948, when William Cole landed second team position on the annual Associated Press scholastic basketball team for that year. Earlier, Cole had won var-

sity berths on the all-district and all-northwestern scholastic teams.

The outstanding coaches of Punxsutawney High School include: William Douglas, Howard Schilling, Marvin Clark, Clarence Binney, Russel Byler, Earl Sheldon and William F. Smith.

Punxsutawney High School is proud of the long list of brilliant basketball stars which is led by Lloyd Jordan and includes such outstanding players as: Jay Simpson, Sherman Fagley, Russell (Red) Grube, Donald Kurtz, Norman Ecklund, Louis Friedman, Torrence Cutler, George Shirk, Reider Thoreson, Ray Oliver, Warren Huey, George Adamson and William Cole.

#### *Track*

Track was started in Punxsutawney High School about the year 1905. For 44 years it has been included in the Punxsutawney High School schedule. It was through the efforts of Frank S. Jackson, then superintendent of the Punxsutawney schools, that track was started in this district. Mr. Jackson, who had himself been a track star, was a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Association. In the past there have been numerous stars, who stood out as great. One of these men was Raymond Bloom, who ran the mile in four minutes, 57.5 seconds in 1927. In 1930, Bloom also completed a cross-country run, covering the distance of four and one-half miles in 26 minutes and 16 seconds. The 1938 track team had three outstanding members. Lou Manfredo put the shot 45 feet and 11 inches, Norman Ecklund leaped 21 feet 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in the broad jump, and Ray Cessna cleared 5 feet, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in the high jump. In 1941, Bruce Snedden cleared the pole vault bar at 11 feet. There were many track stars, who were four letter men in high school. Among these were Michael Fusco, Robert Beatty, Frank Funair and Norman Ecklund.

#### *Wrestling*

Wrestling was first made a high school sport in Punxsutawney about 1934. Roy Klein was the first wrestling coach. In the winter of 1937, he was succeeded by Joseph Harrick. At this time wrestling was a very popular sport, and Punxsutawney wrestling teams had good records. Among the outstanding wrestlers were Ernest Bortz, Frank Funair, Donald Noerr, Jerry Fleming, who was defeated only once, and Phil Karolick, who was the district champion in the 135-pound class. In the winter of 1938 wrestling was discontinued as a high school sport.

#### *Golf*

During the decade prior to World War II, golf was a high school sport in Punxsutawney. Coached by Raymond Caylor, the golf team had many successful seasons. In their first year, the team won the district championship. Punxsutawney competed against Brookville, Clearfield, DuBois and Sandy. As a result of this competition, many good golfers were developed. Among these were Kenneth Stear, Nick Passerell, Max Moore and Glenn Burns. Punxsutawney entered the state tournament at State College every year. The highest place every won by a Punxsutawney High School golfer in the state meet was won by Kenneth Stear, who placed tenth.

#### *Tennis*

High school tennis flourished in Punxsutawney during the 1930's and died out just before the beginning of World War II. Under the coaching of Francis Shaw, the tennis teams from Punxsutawney High



School made favorable records. They had matches with Brookville, Clearfield, DuBois and Indiana.

#### *Baseball*

Although Punxsutawney High School has had baseball off and on in the past, baseball was not officially

made a high school sport until 1947. In 1947 Punxsutawney became a part of the "A" League. For two years, 1947, 1948, Punxsutawney was in the league, which included Punxsutawney, Clearfield, DuBois and Brookville.



A Busy Day at the George C. Brown Community Swimming Pool.



## CHAPTER VII

# PROFESSIONAL MEN

### THE LEGAL PROFESSION OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

On March 26, 1804, Jefferson County was erected from Lycoming County. It was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, then President of the United States. The original boundary line enclosed an area of 1203 square miles, embracing much of what is now Forest and Elk Counties beyond the Clarion River. For the time being, no seat of justice had been established for the new county. By the creating act, Jefferson County was annexed to Westmoreland County for judicial purposes, and there are records in Westmoreland County today pertaining to civil and criminal matters of citizens who lived in what is now Jefferson County. Even the authority of the commissioners of Westmoreland County and their county officers extended over and within the County of Jefferson. Finally on March 10, 1806, Jefferson County was annexed to the County of Indiana for administration and the authority of the county commissioners and other officers of Indiana County extended over to and within the County of Jefferson. It remained annexed to Indiana County for all purposes until 1824, and for judicial purposes until 1830. Hence the legal business of our people was attended to in the court of Indiana until April 2, 1830, when an act of Assembly provided for the setting up of a separate court for Jefferson County.

Considering the condition of the frontier of the county at that time, without any roads to speak of, and more or less of a wilderness, one can hardly realize today what it meant for litigants and others to have to travel great distances to the court house—especially the attorneys who with clients were forced to travel on horseback with their papers, etc., in saddle bags.

However, when the first session of the court convened in Brookville on December 6, 1830, an outside judge presided over the court. He was Thomas Burnside, of Bellefonte, Pa. Punxsutawney was represented in the judicial setup at that time by having two of its early citizens elected associate judges. They were Elijah Heath, of Perry Township, and John W. Jenks, of Punxsutawney. At the first session of the court on December 6, 1830, in Brookville, seven persons were admitted as members of the bar. However, none of these gentlemen was a resident of Jefferson County, but came here to attend court. Some were from Indiana County, some from Williamsport, Butler, Kittanning, and other localities in Western Pennsylvania. Our judicial district at that time was known as the 18th and it consisted of the counties of Potter, McKean, Warren, and Jefferson. The Governor appointed the president judge for the district. From 1835 to 1840, the 18th District was composed of Jefferson, Potter, McKean and Warren Counties. From 1840 to 1849, the 18th District was composed of Jefferson, Potter, McKean and Clarion Counties. Then beginning in 1849, the State was reapportioned and the 18th District was composed of the counties of Venango, Clarion, Jefferson, Elk and Forest. It was not until June 12, 1895, that Jefferson County was made

a separate judicial district numbered the 54th, which it still is designated.

Of the eighteen judges who have presided over the courts of Jefferson County since 1835, most of whom were from out of the county, only two have been from Punxsutawney. The first was the Honorable William P. Jenks, who was born in Punxsutawney May 27, 1821, the third son of Dr. and Mrs. John W. Jenks, pioneer residents of Punxsutawney. Judge Jenks was elected president judge of our courts in 1871, served a full term of 10 years, and lived a long and useful life until his death in Brookville on April 25, 1902. The other judge from our community is Honorable Jesse C. Long, who was elected president judge of Jefferson County in 1935 and re-elected to that office in 1945 and is still the president judge thereof.

The writer has had some difficulty in determining the actual residences of some of our early officials. He has concluded that Punxsutawney, and Young and Perry townships, which were closely allied and pulled together in those early times, were represented among the early associate judges, namely: John W. Jenks and Elijah Heath, 1830; James Winslow, 1841; Thomas Hastings in 1846; John W. Jenks in 1847; James H. Bell, 1855; James Torrence, 1860; James St. Clair, 1865; William Altman, 1870; James E. Mitchell and John B. Wilson in 1875. The office of associate judge of Jefferson County was abolished by the new Constitution of 1874 and the incumbents held their office until the end of their term.

#### *Punxsutawney Attorneys At the Bar*

It is a striking coincidence that David Barclay, who had been one of the pioneer settlers in Punxsutawney (1819) was admitted to the bar in December 1849, 100 years ago, and although he later located in Brookville, still he was a product of the borough of Punxsutawney; He was one of the most prominent attorneys and was elected on the Whig ticket to Congress from this district in 1854.

In September, 1853, Charles Reed Barclay, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the bar of Jefferson County but did not practice to any extent.

At the February term, 1854, Phineas W. Jenks, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the practice of law. He was the first white male child born in Punxsutawney. He actively practiced for many years and was an able attorney.

In 1855, William K. McKee, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the bar and practiced in our community for a number of years.

In 1859, John Hastings, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the bar. Captain Hastings commanded Co. A, 105th Pa. Volunteers, in the Civil War and did valiant service. Upon returning from the war, he resumed his law practice in this community and continued so the rest of his life.

At the February term, 1860, Reuben C. Winslow, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the practice of law. He became a leading attorney at our bar. Later, he was elected State Senator from the district and served a long and useful life in this community.

At the February term, 1868, Henry Clay Campbell,



of Punxsutawney, was admitted. He practiced in Punxsutawney until the fall of 1870, when he removed to Indiana, later moving to Pittsburgh where he practiced until 1879, when he returned to Punxsutawney and purchased the interest of John Hastings in the firm of Hastings and Brewer. Later Mr. Campbell removed to Brookville in 1885. He had a large practice and prepared and argued many leading cases before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He was a Civil War veteran and was one of the outstanding patriotic orators in demand throughout this district up until a few years before he died.

At the May term, 1871, Charles M. Brewer and John St. Clair, of Punxsutawney, were admitted to the bar. Both these gentlemen practiced their profession in and about Punxsutawney for many years and at that time conducted much of the business that was in court from this end of the county.

In 1874, William M. Fairman, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. He was elected district attorney of this county in 1876 and practiced his profession in and about Punxsutawney for many years. He was principally known as a criminal lawyer and tried cases all over northwestern and central Pennsylvania; particularly was he outstanding in the trial of homicide cases. He was a man of keen insight into human nature, a powerful orator before a jury, and practiced his profession until within a few months of his death when he was almost 84 years of age.

At the May term, 1875, the following gentlemen from Punxsutawney were admitted to practice law at our bar, namely: John P. Dilts, although he only practiced but a short time, and then removed to the West; Henry Mundorff and A. J. Monks. Both these gentlemen became efficient and capable lawyers with a large practice following their admission.

At the February term, 1878, John E. Calderwood, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. Mr. Calderwood remained a bachelor all his life. He was a hard worker, conscientious and a man of very careful and precise habits. He became a law partner of Reubin C. Winslow and the firm was known as Winslow and Calderwood.

At the February term, 1879, William M. Gillespie of Punxsutawney, was admitted. Mr. Gillespie had been born and reared in this community and became afflicted with blindness at an early age. However, he overcame this handicap and became one of the most thorough lawyers in the preparation of his case in legal matters which Punxsutawney had ever produced. He practiced his profession until a short time before his death a few years ago.

At the September term, 1883, Alexander J. Truitt, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. Mr. Truitt was one of the first university trained lawyers to practice in our community and during his career conducted a large law business in the local and appellate courts. He practiced in our community actively up until the time of his death.

In 1883 George D. Jenks, of Punxsutawney, was admitted and opened his office here where he conducted a civil practice until about 1904. Then he removed to Brookville, the county seat, and took over the office of his uncle, George A. Jenks, who had been Solicitor General of the United States.

In December, 1888, William W. Winslow, son of Honorable Reuben C. Winslow, of Punxsutawney, was admitted and practiced with his father and Mr. Calderwood for some years. Later and up until the time

of his death, he engaged in the civil practice of law. During his active life, he was engaged in the banking business and took an active part in the promoting of better education in this community. He was active in most of the civil and cultural affairs of the community and was always greatly interested in the progress of Punxsutawney.

In 1892, J. V. Murray from Punxsutawney was admitted to the bar of Jefferson County and later was elected district attorney. He served part of a term in such office, but in 1906 received an appointment as a deputy in the Auditor General's office located in Harrisburg. He remained with the State for a number of years, but resigned his appointment and took up the practice of law in Harrisburg, specializing in state taxes. In this, he was eminently successful and continued until his death a few years ago.

On June 27, 1892, Jacob L. Fisher, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. He soon made his mark as an active, energetic businessman and lawyer in the community. He practiced largely in civil matters. He became associated in many enterprises in connection with the law business, consisting of insurance, banking, real estate, coal mining, and the like. Mr. Fisher was a modest and very active man in the community. He took a great interest in promoting many of our larger business enterprises, in all of which he was successful. He, likewise, helped promote and took active part in educational activities of the community, particularly as one of the charter members of the John A. Weber Fiftieth Anniversary Club, which has since controlled the manual training school and domestic science department in connection with the high school of the community. The present fine Public Library, formerly the home of Mr. Fisher, on West Mahoning Street, attests to the enterprise and vigor of Mr. Fisher's activities in the community. Mr. Fisher practiced his profession until almost the time of his death.

On January 10, 1895, Jeff G. Wingert, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. Mr. Wingert became an active practitioner, doing a large business in civil work until he removed to California about 1910 and engaged in his profession in that state until his death a few years ago.

On September 6, 1897, John D. Croasman, of Punxsutawney, was admitted, but shortly thereafter was awarded a captain's commission in the Spanish-American War, assisting in organizing a company in Punxsutawney and vicinity and commanded it in that war. He never practiced law to any extent in this community.

In September, 1897, Clarence O. Morris, who was born just outside of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the bar and practiced his profession in this community for a number of years, principally with the late William M. Gillespie. Later in 1903, Mr. Morris removed to Kittanning, Armstrong County, where he was elected district attorney of the county and served several terms. He is still practicing in that community.

On August 8, 1898, William Blair Adams, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the bar. He engaged in the general law business, both criminal and civil, until he became ill and died some years ago in Punxsutawney.

On September 18, 1899, H. R. Martin, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. He conducted a civil business here during his entire life.

On January 29, 1900, Lex N. Mitchell, of Punxsutawney, was admitted. Mr. Mitchell practiced in our



community first with the late William Blair Adams for a few years when they separated and each practiced for himself. Mr. Mitchell engaged principally in a civil practice. In 1923, he was appointed a member of the Pennsylvania Public Service Commission and served several years in that capacity. He was a temperance leader in the community and later, following his retirement from the Public Service Commission, opened an office in the city of Pittsburgh, where he practiced his profession until the time of his death. Mr. Mitchell and Walter E. Morris, Esq., formed a law partnership in 1919, which continued until 1930, when Mr. Mitchell took over the Pittsburgh office and continued to practice there by himself.

On July 3, 1905, Jesse C. Long was admitted to the bar. Mr. Long was later elected district attorney of Jefferson County and served three terms. In 1935, he was elected president judge of Jefferson County and in 1945 was re-elected for a second ten-year term.

On August 11, 1915, Charles J. Margiotti, of Punxsutawney, was admitted to the Jefferson County bar. He practiced for a time with the late W. B. Adams, and then started for himself and continued a large practice in this community, both civil and criminal in which he distinguished himself. He later removed to Pittsburgh, Pa., and became Attorney General of the State of Pennsylvania in the Earle administration. He has since continued the practice of law in Pittsburgh where his firm is known as Margiotti and Casey, the latter having been admitted to the Jefferson County bar in 1934.

The following named Punxsutawney persons were admitted to the bar on the dates specified: James U. Gillespie, September 4, 1916; Heath S. Clark, September 4, 1916; Walter E. Morris, April 9, 1917; Peter Yurchak, August 20, 1923; Robert Means Morris, October 3, 1927; Edward Friedman, September 12, 1928; George H. Kurtz, September 18, 1928; Charles J. Ware, October 20, 1934; Vincent M. Casey, November 12, 1934; Jane McClure, April 22, 1935; Jesse P. Long, October 7, 1935; Michael J. Barletta, October 28, 1935; James V. Flanagan, April 29, 1936; Francis J. Mottey, May 29, 1944; Charles A. Lorenzo, June 19, 1944; James H. Prothero, November 18, 1946, and Guy Mamolito, June 6, 1949.

Punxsutawney is now represented at the bar of Jefferson County by these attorneys: Walter E. Morris, Robert M. Morris, George H. Kurtz, Jesse P. Long, Francis J. Mottey, James H. Prothero and Guy Mamolito.

From an examination of the early records of the court house at Brookville, the legal profession and court business in the early days were concerned largely with deeds, land titles involving many cases in ejectment to determine rights of ownership, mortgages, notes, sheriff sales, the opening and laying out of public roads, an occasional divorce action, replevin and partition proceedings, taxations, and actions for damages in contract and trespass. Many of the latter arose out of rafting, logging and lumbering operations.

The orphans' court work concerned the settlement of estates, guardianships, etc. In the criminal court, the cases consisted largely of assault and battery, affrays, riot, larceny, an occasional robbery, and every so often a murder case was before the court.

As the years progressed and as our county became more populated and business enterprises sprang up and developed, the law business changed and in-

creased, particularly with the development of our vast coal and gas fields which involved much more than titles to lands and minerals. Allied business naturally followed into our community as a result of this expansion. Banks were organized. Progress of the machine age, the opening up of our county with railroads, the appearance of the automobile and all kinds of machinery and appliances, have likewise brought changes in the development of the law business. With these there also arose the changes and newer forms of taxation, the organization of corporations, partnerships, and joint enterprises. These naturally have changed in many ways the types of legal and court business.

In conclusion we would remind the reader that no historical skeptic of any profession could be complete without realizing that a true perspective of local events concerning people and their affairs must be read in the light of contemporaneous history. Interesting reading along these lines is found in Dr. McKnight's History of Jefferson County and Northwestern Pennsylvania. Also Godcharles' History of Pennsylvania and some others. Much of the early criminal code was made to fit those times. Just a few years before Jefferson County was detached from Westmoreland County for administrative purpose, we find sentences were meted out to felons in some cases wherein the prisoner was sentenced to have his ears cut off. People were imprisoned for debt; slavery still existed to some extent in Pennsylvania, but progress was rapid along many lines, and, as law and order moved in to Western Pennsylvania with our forefathers desiring a better place in which to live, the veterans of the War of the Revolution and the War of 1812 brought with them their traditions of a good and free people determined to build a community, county, state and nation that has been the marvel of all time. In all of which we believe the legal profession and our courts have made a substantial contribution.

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#### DENTISTS OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

Prior to 1861, all dentistry done in Punxsutawney was by traveling dentists, who journeyed from town to town in the same manner as did the circuit judges of early England. In the year of 1861, however, two dentists began practice in the town. These dentists were Dr. William J. Chandler and Dr. C. W. Stebbins. Dr. Chandler placed in the first issue of the *Punxsutawney Plain Dealer*, the city's first newspaper, the following notice:

"Dr. William J. Chandler offers his services to the citizens of Punxsutawney."

Shortly after, there appeared in *The Plain Dealer* Dr. Stebbins' advertisement:

"Dr. C. W. Stebbins respectfully solicits your dental needs such as extraction of teeth, making plates, and filling teeth."

In 1873, Dr. Samuel J. Hughes placed this notice in the local paper: "Teeth extracted without pain, artificial teeth inserted. Fillings in the finest style. All work guaranteed."

Since those first three dentists began practicing in Punxsutawney, 24 other dentists have come here. Of this total of 27 dentists, fourteen have died, one has retired, eight still practice here, and the others have moved away.



Dr. William J. Chandler—Started practice here in 1861; believed to have graduated from Baltimore College of Dental Surgery.

Dr. C. W. Stebbins—Began practice here in 1861; believed to have graduated from Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. Date of death is unknown.

Dr. Timbrook Morrison—Began practice here in 1871; graduated from Philadelphia Dental College; died in 1940.

Dr. Samuel J. Hughes—Began practice here in 1873; graduated from Philadelphia Dental College; died in 1927.

Dr. George R. Bell—Began practice here in 1888; graduated from Philadelphia Dental College; died February, 1943.

Dr. Glenn Craig Newcome—Began practice here in 1889; graduated from Philadelphia Dental College; died January, 1939.

Dr. Glenn Means—Began practice here in 1889; graduated from Medico Chirurgical College; died October, 1943.

Dr. Clark Brown—Began practice here in 1890; graduate of Philadelphia Dental College; moved to Altoona in 1905; died in 1940.

Dr. William Henry—Began practice here in 1895; graduate of Philadelphia Dental College; died in November, 1945.

Dr. Clifton G. Hughes—Began practice here in 1902; moved to Pittsburgh in 1908; died in 1937.

Dr. Wilson Henry—Began practice here in 1904; graduate of Medico Chirurgical College; died in June, 1942.

Dr. Joseph Robinson—Began practice here in 1905 after practicing in Ohio and Ridgway; graduate of Philadelphia Dental College; died in August, 1922.

Dr. Fred Knarr—Began practice here in 1906; graduate of Philadelphia Dental College; died in 1942.

Dr. John Updegraff—Began practice here in 1906; graduate of University of Pennsylvania; moved to Lionier in 1907.

Dr. Kenneth G. Lenhart—Began practice here in 1908; graduate of University of Pennsylvania; served in Army Dental Corps, being discharged as lieutenant colonel; still practices here.

Dr. Buhl Winter—Began practice in 1910; graduate of University of Pennsylvania; retired in 1928.

Dr. Thomas Bell—Began practice here in 1920; graduate of University of Pennsylvania; served as a lieutenant colonel in artillery and Army Dental Service; moved to Durham, N. C.

Dr. Charles McDonald—Began practice here in 1922; graduate of Pittsburgh University; still practices.

Dr. A. H. Davis—Began practice here in 1924; a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh; still practices here.

Dr. J. P. Vancheri—Began practice here in 1926; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; still practices here.

Dr. Kenneth Jones—Came to practice here in 1927; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; moved to Big Run in 1947; served in Naval Dental Corps.

Dr. L. W. Anderson—Began practice here in 1927; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; still practices here.

Dr. Harry Furniss—began practice here in 1928; graduate of Pittsburgh University; served in Army Dental Corps with the rank of major; still practices here.

Dr. Howard Newcome—Began practice here in

1928; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; died in 1946.

Dr. Howard McCall—Began practice here in 1931; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; still practices here.

Dr. Murray Gross—Began practice here in 1933; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; still practices here.

Dr. William Newcome—Began practice here in 1937; graduate of University of Pittsburgh; served in Navy Dental Corps as a lieutenant (j.g.); still practices here.

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## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION OF JEFFERSON COUNTY AND OF PUNXSUTAWNEY

*"If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth the reading, or do thing worth the writing."*—Ben Franklin.

From the date of the first settlement at the confluence of Mill Creek and Sandy Lick, in territory afterwards a part of Jefferson County, until 1817, there is no record of the location of any physician within the boundaries of the county as ordained by act of Assembly, dated March 26, 1804, Andrew Barnett, Joseph Barnett and Samuel Scott being the three pioneers first mentioned. Andrew Barnett was one of the three that first set foot on Jefferson County soil with the intention of making a permanent settlement and he was the first white man to die in this county, so far as is known. He died in the autumn of 1795, from an attack of cholera morbus. This location in Jefferson County has been known ever since as Port Barnett. Many years before the Barnetts migrated to this section of the state, a band of Moravians had passed through the southern portion of the county, enroute to Ohio and were detained on account of sickness amongst them, from which some died. The sickness was smallpox, apparently, from the description of the illness.

These Moravians supposedly settled in the vicinity of Punxsutawney and the region of the Mahoning Valley. They were headed by Moravian missionaries, and were enroute to the region of Tuscorora County, Ohio, at Schonbrunn, Beautiful Spring, and Gunaten Hutten, near what is now New Philadelphia, Ohio. Schonbrunn, the original missionary settlement, has been reconstructed within the last 15 years by the Ohio Historical Society. The original settlement was burned and destroyed by Indians. The names of the missionaries were Ettwein and David Zeisberger, from the Moravian Mission in Bethlehem, Pa.

In 1810 the inhabitants of Jefferson County numbered only 161. The atmosphere, balsamic from the exhalations of the pines and hemlocks, the water, pure freestone, with all else conducing to health, it proved no tempting location for a physician, and, consequently, it was not until sometime during the year 1817 that one is found permanently located for the practice of his profession within its confines. In this year, a Dr. Newton settled on land now embracing the present site of Summerville. When he came and whither he went when he left the county some years after, is not known. It is supposed that he came from the State of New York, or possibly from one of the New England States, as he was known among the early settlers as the "Yankee doctor." He distilled



his own spirits of turpentine and essential oils, which, with spirits, now procurable at the distillery of Ludwig Long, were transformed into embrocations for bruises and sprains so incident to the pioneer life. For other remedies, he seemed to have depended wholly on the indigenous materia medica, local drugs, plants, herbs, roots and barks and through his skillful prescription and compounding of these, gained quite an enviable reputation as a physician.

The difficult situations in which doctors were forced to render aid and assistance to sick people, is well shown by an article describing the first surgical operation ever performed in Jefferson County.

Dr. Newton performed the first capital major surgical operation ever performed in the county, in the amputation of Moses Knapp's thigh in 1819; and as this is the first operation of any kind that there is any record of, it demands a more extensive notice even if this should somewhat detract from the reputation of Drs. Newton and Rankin, for the former was assisted by the later. Dr. Rankin was located near the present site of Rimersburg, Clarion County.

Knapp was Samuel Scott's adopted son, and came to Port Barnett with his foster-father and Joseph Barnett when they returned in 1796. He was a millwright, and in taking out the timber for a mill he intended to build near the present site of Baxter station, his foot, or leg was crushed by a falling tree. Dr. Newton was called to dress it, but on discovering the serious nature of the injury, had a messenger dispatched after Dr. Rankin. On Rankin's arrival, after consultation, an amputation was decided upon, but, as neither of them had instruments, a neighbor of Knapp's was sent to Kittanning, to procure them. But, as no instruments were to be had there, another messenger was sent to Indiana on the same errand. This also proving a failure, the doctors proceeded to business with such instruments as they could improvise. With what instrument the soft tissues were separated, is not known, but it is presumed with a hunting knife, as, according to the testimony of eye witnesses, there were no flaps or other provisions for covering the bone, but, in their own language, "cut square off." They divided the bone with a carpenter's saw, and, as it was ever afterwards exposed, Knapp always had a tender stump.

#### John W. Jenks

In 1819 Dr. John W. Jenks removed from Bucks County to the present site of Punxsutawney where, in company with others, he had built a cabin and commenced improvements the year before. Dr. Phineas Jenks was his preceptor, and he graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1816. He had about completed arrangements to go to Europe, for the purpose of pursuing his medical studies in one of the universities there, but was dissuaded by his father-in-law, Rev. David Barclay, who induced him to become one of a little colony of pioneers who intended settling in the wilds of Jefferson County, of which number Dr. Barclay was leader of the settlers.

As the taxable inhabitants of Jefferson County only numbered 161 in 1821, two years after the doctor's location in the county—and these, for the most part, widely separated—he could not depend on the practice of medicine for support, but was compelled to do as others, clear land, or turn his attention to other business as the necessities of the settlers required. In 1824, in connection with Rev. David Barclay, he erect-

ed a grist mill on Elk Run, a short distance above Punxsutawney, and a sawmill as well, and in the fall of the same year was elected one of the first board of commissioners for the county; and in 1830, when full rights, powers and privileges were bestowed upon the citizens of the county, Dr. Jenks was appointed by Governor Wolf to fill the position of associate judge, an office he continued to fill for most of the balance of his life.

Rev. Barclay and John W. Jenks deeded the old cemetery on Findley Street to the town, as well as the public square (Barclay Square).

In September, 1818, Dr. Jenks built the first log house on the corner of Penn Stree tand Farmers Alley. The old Jenks' farm house was the first house built in Punxsutawney. Phineas W. Jenks was the first child born in Punxsutawney on September 2, 1819. Dr. Jenks and his wife were both college graduates. The Jenks mansion on the hill where Eugene Jenks now lives was built by Dr. John Jenks between 1821 and 1824.

Dr. Jenks married Mary Barclay, daughter of Rev. David Barclay, and Phineas W., David Barclay, Hon. William P., Mrs. Mary Gordon, wife of I. G. Gordon, a former chief justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Captain James D., and Hon. George A., solicitor general of the United States, once resident of Washington, D. C., were born of this marriage. He continued to practice medicine until his health failed. He died in 1850 and was buried in the old cemetery on North Findley Street that he had helped give to the community.

Some idea of the cost of drugs used in the practice of medicine in this period can be gained from the accounts of Dr. Evans in the daybook of Major Rodgers who in connection with his regular business owned a drug store, which was in Brookville: November 16, 1831, 1 lb. Dover's powder, \$1.50; 3 boxes Hooper's pills, 56½ cents; 4 oz. mercurial ointment, 43¾ cents; 1 pint of wine, 25 cents; 1 pint of brandy, 50 cents. Whisky retailed at 12½ cents a quart and was purchased at 16 cents per gallon, per bbl. (The good old days!) He was also charged with a bottle of quinine (quantity not stated), 25 cents. It would be a matter of deep interest to know how, and in what case, he used it, as this alkaloid had only been discovered by Pelletier and Caventou of France in 1820 and in 1831 its physiological action was but little understood. It was probably administered as a simple tonic.

About September 1, 1831, Dr. Alvah Evans came to Brookville and opened an office for the practice of his profession. He is described as having been a young, handsome, portly man, riding what was considered in those days, a fast horse, of which he was very proud. It was he who induced Major William Rodgers to purchase a small stock of drugs and keep them for sale with his other merchandise; but it was a stock, the Major says, he was compelled in time to close out, as he had no custom for drugs outside the doctors, and they bought on credit and never paid their bills.

Some idea of what is meant by the practice of medicine in Jefferson County in the pioneer days, can be gained by the following account written by Dr. W. J. McKnight in his history of Jefferson County. The Doctor says:

"When I commenced practice I had to ride on horseback. My field extended all through and over Jefferson, Forest and Elk Counties, as well as the west-



ern part of Clearfield County, and I kept from one to three horses. My rides were long, day and night, through rain, mud, sleet, cold, snow and darkness, with no rubber garments to protect me from storms. The pioneer doctor always wore green leggings or corduroy overalls. I was no exception to this rule. I have traveled the creek beds, forded and swam my horse when the rivers were in rafting stage, and ridden over paths many a time from dark until daylight all alone through the wilderness, 20, 30 or 50 miles, stopping about midnight at some cabin to give my horse a little feed.

"In those days there was no telegraph, telephone, or daily mail through which to summon a doctor, but a neighbor had to be sent on foot or on horseback to find a physician—and not to come back without him. I was a good practical botanist and used mostly herbs and roots; these I gathered in the spring, summer and fall. Recipes were the fad then. One of my preceptors had a book of these, which I carefully copied, as well as any others I could find. Medical colleges were few, and medical literature was scarce. As doctors, we knew but little and had to rely on what common sense we possessed. My partner, Dr. Niver, made what he called "devil's broth." It was a mixed decoction of about all our roots and herbs, to be administered, as he said, 'with the hope that some one of the ingredients would hit the disease.' In fact, medicine and its practice was about all theory. Remedies were crude and drastic. Instruments few, imperfect and clumsy. I feel amazed when I think how ignorant I was, yet I tied arteries, set broken bones, amputated limbs, saved lives! The pioneer doctor unselfishly responded to all calls, asking no questions as to pay, and performing more free labor for humanity than all other classes of men combined.

"In learning the art I rode with my preceptor. In some of my long rides I have become so tired about midnight that I felt I could not go a step farther. Then I would dismount from my horse, hitch him to a log on the outside of a log barn, slip the bridle around his neck, climb into the mow, throw the horse an armful of hay, and then fall asleep in the hay, only to awaken when the sun was an hour or two high. The pioneer doctor carried his pillbags well stocked with calomel, Dover's powder, tartar emetic, blistering salve, a pair of old turnkeys for extracting teeth, and spring and thumb lancets for bleeding purposes, as everybody had to be bled, sick or well. Twenty-five cents was the fee for bleedings, and the amount of blood drawn from the arm was from half a pint to a quart. The custom of bleeding sick or well fell into disrepute about 1860. A town visit was from 25 to 50 cents, a visit in the country 25 cents a mile, an obstetric fee \$5. Sanitary science was unknown before 1867.

"Antiseptic surgery had its birth in that year, when Lister reported, in the London 'Lancet' 11 cases of compound fracture which recovered without infection or amputation. Before that date we contended with suppuration of the wound, the putrefaction and sloughing off of tissue, the sickening odor, the high fever, the danger of hemorrhage, the slow healing, the complications of blood poisoning erysipelas, gangrene and tetanus, the physical and mental anguish, and the uncertainty of the final outcome. The mortality from major operations was from 50 to 100 percent.

"The tools of the pioneer were the axe, six inch

auger, drawing knife, a broadaxe and a cross-cut saw. The dexterity of the pioneer in the use of the axe was remarkable, indeed marvelous. He used it in clearing land, making fences, shopping firewood, cutting paths and corduroy roads, building cabins and bridges. In fact, in all work and hunting, in traveling by land, in canoeing and rafting on the water, the axe was ever his friend and companion. The erection with these implements of log cabins and log barns, the logging in lumber camps, the taking out of squared timber, rafting in and down the creeks and the clearing of farm land, caused many dislocations, fractures, lacerations, incisive or cut wounds. Some of these were simple, but many were terrible. I used for adhesion in cut wounds Balm of Gilead stick plaster, spread on muslin strips. The pioneer doctor had to improvise his own surgical dressings; of course they were clumsy and crude."

#### John B. Henderson

An old ledger record book of William Campbell, merchant of Punxsutawney, reveals the interesting accounts that begin in 1819 of business transacted in his store. This account is of interest, because it identifies Punxsutawney's physician No. 2, Dr. John B. Henderson, located at Punxsutawney in 1828.

1828 Dr. John Henderson Cr.  
May 5 to 11, June 8 to 17.

By account rendered for attendance and  
medicine for Robert Campbell, deceased \$30.00  
Sworn and subscribed before Notary fee .12½

Also, this book record mentions Dr. John Henderson as being in the practice of medicine, presumably the second physician to practice medicine in Punxsutawney, also, the service rendered is to Robert Campbell and records his final illness and death.

William and Robert Campbell supposedly became citizens of Punxsutawney in 1832. This record proves William Campbell to have been in business in 1819 and 1820, also that Robert Campbell may have been the pioneer brother of William Campbell.

Also from book account of Will Campbell:  
Alfred Keiser, Sr.

1828 By attendance on several members of  
family and medicine for nearly three \$68.07½  
years 28.07½

See Dr. account \$40.00

1830 January 19

Doctor James Coffee—Dr. (Debtor)

31—Dr. William A. Vicroy—Dr. (Debtor)

Dr. William A. Vicroy, Cr.

By medicine and sundry bills \$1.50

1829 Nov. 19 To cash in full

B.—William Campbell \$1.50

The cost of a cherry coffin made-to-order was \$1.50.  
(It was much cheaper to die in those days.)

So far as I know, the above two persons have never before been identified with the medical profession in Punxsutawney. But this record does show that they both prescribed and treated the sick in Punxsutawney and are therefore pioneer physicians of this town.

#### Andrew Jackson Johnson

Dr. Johnson was born in Bellefonte, Centre County, September 23, 1820. He studied medicine for at least part of his course with Dr. McCoy, of Bellefonte, and was for a while assistant to Dr. Harris, in a drug store



in the same place, probably finishing his course of reading with him. He then went to Lock Haven, where he entered a drug store as a partner of a Mr. Wagoner and during the winter of 1847 and 1848 attended one of the medical colleges in Philadelphia. Some time after the close of the session, in the year 1848, he located in Punxsutawney, where he continued to practice medicine in connection with the sale of drugs until his death, July 17, 1863.

#### *William Altman*

Dr. William Altman was born in Indiana County, October 20, 1825; read medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. James M. Stewart, of Indiana. First located at Armagh, Indiana County, where he remained from October, 1847, to July, 1848, when he removed to Punxsutawney, Jefferson County, and continued the practice here until July 1, 1857, when he removed to Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, Iowa, and remained there till June 1, 1858, when he returned to Punxsutawney and continued to practice until December, 1862. On December 17, 1862, he was commissioned assistant surgeon, and was in charge of the 28th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, until May 1, 1863, when he received a commission as surgeon of the same regiment, remaining as such until the close of the war in 1864. He was elected associate judge for Jefferson County and served in that position from 1870 till 1875. He was elected to serve in the State Legislature for the years 1885 and 1886, and was re-elected for the years 1887 and 1888. He was medical examiner for several life insurance companies, and also held a number of municipal offices in Punxsutawney. Dr. Altman was a graduate from Jefferson Medical College, class of 1853.

The writer of this article well remembers Dr. William Altman and his many sterling qualities. As a young boy he made many visits to the office of his father, Dr. William F. Beyer. They were closely associated in an extremely friendly relationship for a number of years. Dr. Altman suffered from a severe prostatic condition, possibly carcinoma, and after a lingering illness of several years, succumbed. He was an excellent surgeon for the period, having acquired great skill as an army surgeon and was associated in the army with Dr. Ernest H. Goodman, of Philadelphia, who was a much younger man than Dr. Altman, but Dr. Altman's superior officer. During his illness, Dr. Ernest Goodman came from Philadelphia to Punxsutawney to visit him on several occasions, showing great respect for Dr. Altman and marked tribute to his comrade in the war. Dr. Altman was buried March 1889, temporarily in a plot of ground next to the residence of George M. Torrence (the present residence of Dr. J. M. Lukehart, 919 East Mahoning Street, covers this spot) awaiting the opening of Circle Hill Cemetery, where he was finally buried. Dr. William Altman was held in highest esteem by a large number of people in Jefferson and Indiana Counties. He was a successfully practitioner, a keen observer of illness and a man of much surgical wisdom. He typified the sterling qualities of the medical profession of the Civil War period.

Dr. Altman was married to Anna Campbell, daughter of George Campbell, and their children were: William Anna (mother of Dr. Roy L. Young), Elizabeth and Helen. These children were all born in Punxsutawney.

#### *J. J. Bishop*

Dr. Bishop, a son of Dr. Gara Bishop, of Brookville, also located in the county and practiced for a few years in Punxsutawney.

#### *Samuel C. Allison*

Samuel Calhoun Allison was born in Limestone, Clarion County, December 31, 1830, the son of Tate and Mary Calhoun Allison and was 86 years of age at the time of his death.

He graduated from Elders Ridge Academy in 1860 and then took up teaching. He was principal of the Brookville schools from 1860 until 1863. In 1863 he entered Jefferson Medical School as a student, having previously read medicine in the office of Dr. Hunt in Brookville while teaching. He received his diploma from Jefferson Medical in 1865.

He came to Punxsutawney in 1863. Excepting for the time spent in school and the period he practiced in Brookville and Marchand, he spent all of his time from 1863 until his death in 1916 in Punxsutawney. When he came to Punxsutawney it was a village of 300 people and he, with the late Drs. Joseph Shields and William Altman, were the only physicians in town.

In 1863 he married Miss Jane Craig who died in 1911.

Dr. Allison is well remembered by the writer of this article as being a tall, slender, scholarly looking man of the professional type. He was always genteel, always mild and quiet, but yet on being aroused, he was firm and had a clear mind. He was a very good doctor for the period and was well educated. His personality reflected his breeding and his scholastic training. His work was mostly confined to consultations and office work, within the limits of the town. No doubt because of the rigors of the practice of medicine, he did not feel able to endure the hardship of riding and driving. However, he enjoyed a large practice and was a valued practitioner in this community.

#### *Joseph Shields*

Doctor Joseph Shields, one of Punxsutawney's earliest and finest physicians, was born in December, 1827, in Washington Township, Indiana County. He received his early education at the Jackson and Glade Run Academies. He entered the office of Dr. S. G. Berryhill, of Plumville, as a student of medicine. During the years 1854 and 1855, he attended Cleveland Medical College in Cleveland, Ohio, where he was graduated in 1855.

Dr. Shields located in Perrysville (Hamilton) in 1852. He remained there until 1865 and removed to Punxsutawney where he lived and died. He had a strong character and was a very good physician for the period in which he served the public. He conducted a general store and drug store opposite Barclay Square in the center of Punxsutawney.

The writer remembers Margaret Shields, the wife of Dr. Joseph Shields, as a very efficient, splendid woman. Many a bag of candy he received from her while being in the store with his grandmother, Lucinda Grube, who purchased a large amount of her household supplies from this store. She was kind, jolly, always full of stories and was to my memory, an outstanding business woman and very kind to children. One must mention her in connection with



one of the earliest stores the writer encountered in his youth.

Dr. Shields was a lover of fine horses. He had the finest driving horses, carriages and sulkeys in town. He had and bred the best standard stock. His pleasure might have been known as horses and dogs. Apparently his favorite dogs were greyhounds, both big and little types, coach dogs, etc., and they were always with him when making his rounds of visits.

While making a visit to William Steffy's in the Corn Cake Valley, now where Rikers plant is located, Dr. Shields was accompanied by his grandson, Joseph Shields Matson, and on his return, drove his horse into a very deep pool of water in Mahoning Creek. The boys and the old doctor were thrown into the water which was more than 20 feet deep at this point and both the doctor and the grandson were almost drowned. Both were rescued, but the doctor was in bed for a number of weeks following this and really this accident terminated in his final illness and death. The fine, white horse was drowned and the writer remembers seeing the horse floating around in the pool on its back, with its feet sticking up in the air, still harnessed to the cart. This was a favorite horse of the Doctor's and its name was "Pet."

Dr. Shields had two children, Fanny and Joseph, Jr. Fannie married Dr. Charles Matson; Dr. Shields and Dr. Matson were partners in medical practice.

#### *William F. Matson*

The writer remembers Dr. William Matson as a very tall, dignified man. He was handsome; and in passing him on the street, you would be immediately attracted by his splendid appearance and dignity. He was always immaculately dressed and his manner was always courteous, and his cultural background was evident always. As a boy he fascinated me, I think, because well dressed men were rare at this period in our town.

Dr. Matson was the family physician of J. L. Fisher while Mr. Fisher resided in Brookville, during the period that Mr. Fisher was studying law. Mrs. Fisher tells me that he was a splendid doctor, a very well educated man with a fine personality; the characteristics of an excellent family physician. Mrs. Fisher states that Dr. Matson urged Mr. Fisher to locate in Punxsutawney, after he had finished his studies of the law in Brookville. Dr. William Matson was a nephew of Dr. C. M. Matson, the first president of the Jefferson County Medical Society, founded in the years 1857-1877.

#### *Sylvester Sutton Hamilton*

Dr. Sylvester Sutton Hamilton was a foremost medical practitioner of Punxsutawney and located in this city in 1878 when he came to practice with Dr. William Altman. He was born August 12, 1852, in Indiana County, Pa. He was educated in Covode Academy and attended school at Lebanon, Ohio. He completed his literary course at the University of Scio, Ohio, in 1875 and began the study of medicine. He attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College and Columbus (Ohio) Medical College and graduated from the latter institution in 1878. Dr. Hamilton enjoyed a wide practice. He worked early and late in his youthful days. He was a very good physician and was held in high esteem by a large following in Jefferson and Indiana Counties. Dr. Hamilton's first wife was Eleanor Mitchell, daughter of Ralston

Mitchell. To this union Dr. Hamilton had one daughter, Cecil Beatrice, wife of Dr. William H. Gilmore, of Chicago, Ill. Beatrice Hamilton was a graduate of Women's Medical College in Philadelphia. Dr. Hamilton's second wife was Sarah J. Gourley, daughter of Robert Gourley, and by this union had two children: Dr. S. S. Hamilton, of Punxsutawney, and Robert Hamilton, druggist, deceased. To "Uncle Doctor" the writer is indebted to a very great service, he being present at my birth and showed his fine care of me at that time. Perhaps, he could have cracked me on the head with a mallet just as easily, for better or worse.

Dr. Hamilton was once mayor of Punxsutawney and at one time was a member of the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

Dr. Hamilton was a man with intense energy. He was always flying around doing something. We always smiled at his Prince Albert coat-tails flying as he went by on foot. He adhered all his life to the strictly old fashioned professional garment of the period when he started to practice medicine. After Dr. Harry Gourley was associated with him in practice, Dr. Hamilton's active medical career more or less ended. He maintained a lucrative drug store for a number of years.

#### *Andrew Pierce Cox*

Dr. Andrew Cox was located in Big Run, sometime during the summer of 1877. He was born in Allegheny County and was graduated from Cincinnati Medical College, June 21, 1877. Dr. Cox married Ann Cochran, sister of J. Camden Cochran, M. D., of Big Run, Pa. He is the father of Dr. Milo Cox, Walter, Raymond and Ethel, deceased.

Dr. Cox was a brilliant physician and learned in disease. I remember frequent consultations he and my father held over many a serious illness in their practice.

During the flu epidemic of 1889-1893 Dr. Cox developed an infection of the middle ear and had a number of mastoid operations, which were not very successful. Dr. Cox, because of impaired health, removed to Kane, Pa., where he practiced until his death. Dr. Milo Cox is a busy, excellent physician of Kane. Walter is a very successful business man.

#### *J. Camden Cochran*

Dr. Camden Cochran, of Big Run, uncle of Miles and John Grube, was a huge man of large intellect and equal medical learning. He was handicapped after a few years of busy professional life by rheumatic fever, which, for a number of years and until his death, ruined his career. He relocated in Harrisburg the last 20 years of his life, where he maintained a drug store in connection with his practice.

#### *William F. Beyer*

Dr. William Beyer located in Punxsutawney in May, 1879. He was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Beyer was a giant in size, a man of strong physical development. His preceptor was Dr. Christopher McEwen, of Plumville, Pa. Dr. Beyer was a general practitioner of medicine, until 1893 when he spent a year in the study of the specialty of eye, ear, nose and throat at the Wills Hospital in Philadelphia, St. Joseph's Hospital and Jefferson Medical College. He had special tutelage under Drs. Ernest Goodman and S. Lewis Ziegler. He enjoyed a large



practice all his active life and was held in high esteem by his fellow practitioners and by the community in which he served.

At the time Dr. Beyer located in Punxsutawney, in 1880, the population of Young Township was 909. He practiced medicine on horseback and he maintained a fine saddle horse named "Skip" with which he made his visits. The population of Punxsutawney at that time was 674, and he told me that he sat in his office for three months before he ever received a call. At the time of his location here the community was suffering an epidemic of diphtheria, entire families of children being wiped out, as many as four and five deaths in one family and some adults. Finally, after the burial of two members of one family he was called to treat the remaining cases as they developed in this family. Fortunately these children got well, as did the children in the next two families in which he was called. His reputation was established immediately and thereafter he was a very busy doctor. Persistence and determination in the face of obstacles marked his life's work. I doubt whether many young men opening an office would have the courage to wait three months for their first office consultation or house visit.

He married Margaret Ann Mitchell, a daughter of Ralston Mitchell and Lucinda Gourley in June, 1880. His children are Dr. Samuel Meigs Beyer, Mary Eleanor Beyer and Dr. Margaret Virginia Beyer.

I remember a trip that my father made above Rositer, in which a severe storm blew seven trees down into the road and he had to personally chop three of these trees out of the road in order to get home. He was assisted by a man by the name of James Neal and he often chuckled about how he outlogged (chopped) Mr. Neal, a native woodsman.

#### *James Albert Miller*

Dr. Miller located in Perrysville, Jefferson County, August 20, 1870. He was the son of Samuel G. and Mary Ann Miller, nee Keener, and was born near Saltsburg, Indiana County, August 23, 1844; read medicine with Dr. William Jack, of Jacksonville, Indiana County, and graduated from the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, Cincinnati, Ohio, July 13, 1870; married Laura A. Hamilton, daughter of Robert Hamilton, of Perrysville, November 26, 1872.

#### *Charles Augustus Wilson*

Dr. Wilson, the son of Dr. George and Anna Hoover Wilson, was born January 20, 1858; read medicine with his father, Dr. George Wilson, and graduated from the Kentucky School of Medicine and Surgery, Louisville, June 29, 1881; married Alice M. Tyson in 1879, and located in Big Run, Jefferson County, shortly after his graduation.

#### *Alonzo Dexter McComb*

Dr. McComb located in Perrysville, Jefferson County, it is thought, in 1881. He was born in Dayton, Armstrong County, and attended lectures in Cleveland, Ohio.

#### *Thornton Riggs Williams*

Dr. Williams was born near Ithaca, Dark County, Ohio. His maternal ancestors were early pioneers of that state, having settled near Cincinnati as early as 1802, and his paternal ancestors were early pioneers

of Washington County, Pa. His early training was received on the farm and his elementary education was obtained from the common district school under the usual disadvantages. Early in his "teens" he attended the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, where he fitted himself for teaching, which occupation he followed for only a short time, when he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he remained five years, graduating with the class of '78. Subsequently, he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., his diploma being dated March 1, 1882. His first location was in Brockwayville in December '82, where he remained until August 1883, when he removed to Beech Tree.

Dr. Williams held rank with the leading medical practitioners of southern Jefferson County for 30 years. He was a man of excellent judgment as physician and surgeon as well. He was capable and wise in surgical procedures and his opinion was sought by many of his professional associates, and his helping advice to the young physician was a valued privilege. He was proud to teach young medical men from his fund of rich experience. He was truly a great physician and a very cultured gentleman.

He came to Jefferson County following his graduation from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., in 1878, located first at Dagus Mines, Elk County, made a brief stay at Brockway, Pa. In 1883 he settled in Beech Tree as a physician and surgeon for the B., R. & P. Coal & Iron Company. In 1887 he located in Adrian for the same company. Dr. Williams had not been long in Adrian before he recognized the need for a hospital affording better facilities for the care of surgical cases, especially. He associated himself vigorously with the movement for securing such an institution, with the result that the Adrian Hospital was established, being opened publicly Feb. 11, 1899, at Adrian, Pa. It has been stated that Mrs. Adrian Iselin, of New York City, largely founded the hospital in honor of her distinguished husband, Adrian Iselin, for whom the town was named. No doubt material aid was added by the mining company. The Adrian Hospital of Punxsutawney is located on grounds formerly the property of John W. Jenks, the pioneer physician of Punxsutawney. The Adrian Hospital Association was incorporated in 1888. The contribution of the Adrian Hospital to the care and comfort of the sick people of the community, has been a marvelous service to the community. Its founding by Dr. Williams, later aided by Dr. S. M. Free, of DuBois; Dr. Walter S. Blaisdell, Dr. C. R. Stevenson, of Delancey; Dr. F. D. Pringle, Dr. C. W. Hughes, and the entire staff and its contribution to the care of the sick, rich and poor alike, is a challenge to any system of socialized or compulsory medical service to even vaguely approach its efficiency. Dr. Williams was, therefore, the founder of the Adrian Hospital and a member of its staff until his retirement, when he moved to Cynwyd, Pa. (Philadelphia suburb). Dr. Williams was interested in banking, lumbering, and coal mining, extensively. His primary excellence and worth to this community was his professional service as wise counsellor in illness; in both medicine and surgery, in which, for a long time he was pre-eminent. His son, George H., of whom there is none other like, survives, residing in Cynwyd, Pa.



### *Dwight Gustavus Hubbard*

Dr. Hubbard was born March 10, 1846, at Centreville, Allegheny County, N. Y. His parents were Asa Carter and Frances Adeline Hubbard. He read medicine with Dr. Conrad Diehl in Buffalo, N. Y., and graduated from the University of Buffalo in the spring of 1869; first located at Farmersville, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and remained there from the spring of 1869 to the spring of 1873. He then located at Carbon Run, Bradford County, as surgeon for the Schraeder Coal and Iron Company, which position he continued to hold until November, 1883, when he removed to Punxsutawney. He was married in 1871 to Hattie E. Hall, of Wethersfield, Wyoming County, N. Y. He had been in the continuous practice of medicine since his graduation. He resided on Findley Street opposite the present post office site in Punxsutawney and was the first physician, surgeon of the mines at Walston. He preceded Dr. Walter S. Blaisdell in this location by a number of years. Dr. Blaisdell came here as his associate.

### *Charles Gustav Ernst*

Dr. Ernst was born in Punxsutawney August 18, 1859, and was the son of Henry and Catherine Speis Ernst; read medicine with Dr. Joseph Shields, and graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, March 13, 1894; located immediately after in Punxsutawney, where he continued the practice of medicine.

Dr. Ernst was one of the most brilliant young physicians and surgeons that ever practiced medicine in Punxsutawney, where he was born. He studied in Europe and Germany following his graduation. He was an active member in fraternal orders, being prominent in the Knights of Pythias of Punxsutawney and a Commander Knight in the Pennsylvania State Lodge. The community was robbed of an excellent, outstanding man by his premature death.

In an early day, ministers of the gospel in large part, performed the function of physician and prescribed for the ill and practiced considerable amount of surgery, even to the setting of bones and minor surgical procedures. This practice was common for Jefferson County. An example of this was done by Rev. David Barclay, founder of Punxsutawney, father-in-law of John W. Jenks, also Dr. Jonathan Nichols. He came to Clearfield County and then to the Little Toby Valley. He was both minister and physician. He was a man of intellect and a minister as well as doctor. He was ordained as a Baptist minister and was the first minister to preach regularly in the Toby Valley and also the pioneer physician in the northern part.

It is apparent from reading this history of medicine in Jefferson County that up to this period, the standards of medical education were not too high, but arising within the profession and at their insistence, the following laws were enacted by the State Legislature.

No laws were enacted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania relating to, and controlling the practice of medicine in the state prior to the act of March 24, 1877, which was supplemented by that of June 8, 1881, the provisions of which are as follows:

Sec. 1. The standard qualifications of a practitioner of medicine, surgery or obstetrics, shall be and consist of the following, namely: A good moral character, a thorough elementary education, a comprehensive knowledge of human anatomy, human physiology,

pathology, chemistry, materia medica, obstetrics, and practice of medicine and surgery and public hygiene.

Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful, after the passage of this act, for any person to announce himself or herself as a practitioner of medicine, surgery or obstetrics, or to practice the same, who has not received, in a regular manner, a diploma from a chartered medical school, duly authorized to confer upon its alumni the degree of doctor of medicine: Provided, That this act shall not apply to any resident practitioner of medicine, surgery or obstetrics who has been in continuous practice in this Commonwealth for a period of not less than five years previous to the passage of this act.

Ten more sections of this act are not here recorded because of lack of space in this article.

The following physicians have registered in accordance with this act in the Prothonotary's office in Brookville since:

1886—Dr. J. Beyer Mitchell, Punxsutawney. 1887—Dr. J. B. Morris, Dr. Charles W. Hughes, Punxsutawney. 1888—Dr. J. A. Walter, Dr. Elizabeth M. Merritt Hooper, Punxsutawney. 1889—Dr. Harry McClellan Wilson, Big Run. 1890—Dr. John Camden Cochran, Big Run; Dr. Joseph Miles Grube, Punxsutawney. 1891—Dr. B. F. Metzgar, Punxsutawney; Dr. John E. Grube, Clayville (W. E., Punxsutawney); Dr. Williard G. Lent, Horatio. 1892—Dr. William St. Clair Campbell, Horatio (He was the son of George Campbell and nephew to Dr. William Altman.); Dr. William Clark Newcome, Big Run; Dr. John Alexander Newcome, Perry Township and later in Sigel, Pa.

### *Russell Gourley*

Dr. Gourley, who was born in Grange, June 29, 1870, a son of Crawford and Ellen Gourley, graduated from the Western Pennsylvania Medical College in Pittsburgh, now the University of Pittsburgh Medical School, in 1894 and started practice in Troutville. He practiced in South Carolina for several years before coming to Punxsutawney about 40 years ago.

Soon after his arrival here, he specialized in diseases of the eye, nose, and throat, which he practiced until his death, November 18, 1948. Dr. Gourley was a member of the Jefferson County Medical Society and also of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Gourley was a great church man. He inherited the voice of the musical Gourleys and was active in church work all his life. He was also one of the oldest active members of the Country Club. He was a kind, good man, and a valuable physician.

### *Harry Gourley*

Dr. Harry Gourley located in Punxsutawney as an associate of Dr. S. S. Hamilton as a general practitioner of medicine. He soon decided that there was a great need for a trained physician to take charge of sick children, therefore, perfected his specialty in pediatrics and enjoyed a splendid reputation for his handling of diseases of children in this community for a number of years. Dr. Gourley was a very good doctor. His opinion was valued by his medical associates and his service to the community was indeed valuable and extensive. He always had a good jolly story, always a new one, and how!

### *Walter S. Blaisdell*

Dr. Blaisdell was born at Macomb, McDonald County, Illinois, May 21, 1866. After a course of



study in the Abbott Preparatory School at Farmington, Maine, he pursued a higher academic course in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1890.

My earliest recollection of Dr. Blaisdell, a chubby, robust type of man, was riding in a little two wheeled cart drawn with a rapidly moving little black horse through mud up over the hill between Punxsutawney and Walston where he was associated in practice with Dr. Hubbard. He was also a resident physician at the Adrian Hospital and maintained an office in the Punxsutawney borough. Dr. Blaisdell was instrumental in having Dr. Francis D. Pringle locate in Punxsutawney. Dr. Blaisdell was a very stirring man, restless, aggressive, and always active; naturally, he became interested in coal mining, banking and other business enterprises and was very successful in these. As a physician, he was a good surgeon and an outstanding man in traumatic surgery, fractures and wounds. He enjoyed an enviable reputation. Dr. Blaisdell had two children, Mrs. Robert Hamill and Ralph. The influence and devotion of his children to the Adrian Hospital, its support and aid by the entire family has been a fine tribute to the memory of their father and his connection with the hospital.

#### *John H. Murray*

Dr. Murray, founder of the Punxsutawney Sanitarium, practiced at Reynoldsville and Soldier, Pa. He specialized in internal medicine and constitutional diseases. Dr. Murray was a good physician and very successful. He established a small sanitarium in East End, Punxsutawney, and equipped it for hydro-therapy work and employed competent help and aid. For a number of years he had a lucrative practice in this community and was held in high esteem by a large number of people. A short time after the doctor's death, the sanitarium was closed. The nursing service in this institution was supervised by Olevia Murray, the doctor's sister. She was a splendid person, trained in the nursing practice and conducted the sanitarium creditably during its existence. She was assisted at times by Miss Nettie Miller.

#### *John E. Grube and J. Miles Grube*

Dr. Grube was the son of Joseph Grube, of Bell Township. He was associated in practice in Punxsutawney with his brother, Joseph J. Miles Grube and also with Dr. Dilts in West End, Punxsutawney. This group of young men were active practitioners of medicine and enjoyed a big reputation all over Jefferson and Indiana Counties. Dr. John E. Grube was the founder of the Punxsutawney Hospital, having removed in 1892 to Punxsutawney proper and practiced medicine in Punxsutawney until his death. Dr. Grube was a great organizer. He was a handsome, big man, as was his brother, Miles Grube. They were giants in size and strength and their size was reflected in their work as medical men in the community. Dr. Grube's greatest contribution to medicine in Punxsutawney was the establishment of an adequate, clean, fine hospital which was conducted in a modern method and splendid way. The first separate department of a hospital devoted to obstetrical service, was founded by Dr. John E. Grube in the Punxsutawney Hospital, and he was dully proud of the contribution to better obstetrical treatment in the town. There were 12 beds devoted to the service. Some of the out-

standing men who were associated with him from time to time were Dr. Dasher, of Erie, Pa.; Dr. Wayne Snyder, of Brookville; Dr. Epright, of Altoona; Mr. Montgomery, of Altoona; Dr. James, Dr. G. M. Musser, Dr. David Matske, Dr. Edith Matske, and a number of other excellent men, too numerous to mention. All of these men contributed to the success of building of this hospital's reputation. No little measure of credit is due Miss Susan Heitzenrater for her masterful handling of the nursing service and the care granted to sick people in that institution.

#### *Francis D. Pringle*

Dr. Pringle came to Punxsutawney in 1905 and was associated in practice with Dr. Blaisdell. He soon became superintendent of the Adrian Hospital and for a long period of years was an outstanding surgeon in that institution. He was an excellent surgeon and a splendid man. He was a man of few words. He was silent, but always had his feet on the ground in a medical sense. He was well trained and his surgical service at the Adrian Hospital was a tremendous contribution to suffering humanity. The author of this article feels that he shall always be indebted to Dr. Pringle for the opportunity of working with him and learning from his surgical procedures and the right and wrong way to do things. He was a good teacher. It is doubtful whether any man ever performed as many operations in the Adrian Hospital as Dr. Pringle did in his service in that institution and so much for pure charity.

#### *G. M. Musser*

Dr. Musser was born in 1879. He was a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and practiced pharmacy before he took up medicine. He graduated from the Jefferson Medical College in the year 1910, and came to Punxsutawney as an associate of Dr. John E. Grube in the Punxsutawney Hospital, and assistant superintendent of the hospital. Dr. Musser was one of the most devoted men to the practice of medicine. He was a hard working man who put in long hours and was most kind in his manner and an excellent physician and an outstanding surgeon. For a long time, he was the dean of the surgical profession in Punxsutawney. Largely as a result of overwork and long hours, he succumbed suddenly to a heart attack on July 28, 1948. Dr. Musser enjoyed such a place in the heart of the community that will challenge the best efforts of anyone to even attempt to approach his position of eminence. Dr. Musser's father, a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, was a classmate of Dr. William F. Beyer and Dr. Musser's father practiced in Lancaster many years. Dr. John H. Musser, of Philadelphia, clinical professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and his son, Dr. John H. Musser, Jr., professor of medicine at Tulane University, New Orleans, were cousins of our Dr. Musser. A new link in the Musser medical chain is in preparation. His son, Guy, Jr. (may he ever possess his fathers' virtues and worth!) is now a medical student at Harvard University.

#### *Francis Pugliese*

Dr. Pugliese was born in 1908, graduated from Temple University in 1935, and received his license in 1936. On November 17, 1948, death removed from practice in our community one of the most brilliant young doctors that has ever served in Punxsutawney. His knowledge of disease was remarkable.



His grasp of medical science was encyclopedic. He helped the practitioners of Punxsutawney solve the diagnostic problems of many remote diseases which otherwise might have gone unsolved. He was a delicate man physically. He was handicapped most of the time he practiced medicine in this town by illness. For the brief period of years that he was permitted to practice with us, he had a splendid practice and he enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community and the profession, that was unmeasurable. His loss is regretted by many people.

Dr. Pugliese had practiced medicine in Punxsutawney the past eight years, coming to this city from Adrian, where he established a practice after serving as a resident physician in pathology and internal medicine in Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh.

He was a graduate of Temple University Medical School and took post-graduate work at Tulane University in New Orleans, La.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pugliese, of Indiana; his wife, one son, Francis, Jr., and a daughter, Frances Ann, at home.

#### *Joseph Bowman Morris*

Dr. Morris, of Punxsutawney, was born September 16, 1860, in Young Township, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Morris. His early education was gained in the township schools, then he studied at Waynesburg College, Waynesburg, Pa., and Lincoln University at Lincoln, Illinois. In the spring of 1882, Dr. Morris decided to study medicine, and the late W. F. Beyer, M.D., of this city, was his preceptor, with whom he studied for a short time. He entered the Medical College of the University of Maryland at Baltimore where he studied for one year, then transferred to the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia where Dr. Morris graduated in the class of 1886. A short time thereafter, he returned to Punxsutawney, opened an office and practiced his profession in this community until the spring of 1908, when he removed to Corvallis, Oregon, where he practiced for five years. Returning to Pennsylvania in 1913, he located at Gettysburg, Pa. He removed to Punxsutawney in the spring of 1929 and shortly thereafter retired from the active practice of medicine. Dr. Morris was married to Ella Means, of Valier, in 1888. They were the parents of four sons, Col. George W. Morris, of New Cumberland, Pa.; Walter E. Morris, Esq., and Robert M. Morris, Esq., of this city, and Col. J. Theodore Morris, of Dayton, Ohio.

Dr. Morris is still in good health in his 89th year and, although retired from his profession, he is actively about our community each day.

The writer remembers Dr. J. B. Morris as a studious young man in my father's office, which at that time was located where the Stewart Drug Store is, 126 W. Mahoning St. With continued study, his medical knowledge broadened and he was a very efficient, useful practitioner in Punxsutawney, with whom I am personally acquainted. His personality typifies my conception of a real general practitioner and family medical advisor.

#### *Jacob A. Walter*

Dr. Walter was Punxsutawney's first homeopathic physician. His principal characteristics were kindness and mildness. I am sure that he was Punxsutawney's most patient, loyal and devoted practitioner. He had a host of friends. He was very prosperous and his life

personified the highest ideals in medical service to mankind. Dr. Walter was a general practitioner; but soon after his location in Punxsutawney, he specialized in eye, nose, throat and ear diseases. It was the custom of the period for all these specialties to be combined in training and practiced by one physician. I judge the reason being, there were not sufficient patients with ailments of each organ to justify the specialty in each.

Dr. Eleanor Walter, the daughter of Dr. Jacob Walter, graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, and about the time she was to locate in Punxsutawney, was seized by the deadly malady of tuberculosis. Her vitality was such that in a brief number of months, she succumbed. The death of this child was a decided blow to Dr. Walter and one of the greatest disappointments of his life. After this, he seemed to age rapidly. His death left a big vacancy in medical practice in Punxsutawney.

#### *William H. Gilmore*

Dr. Gilmore graduated from Jefferson Medical College and came to Punxsutawney in 1905 as an associate of Dr. William F. Beyer. He married Dr. Beyer's niece, Beatrice Hamilton, and was a successful x-ray and laboratory man in Mount Vernon, Ill., and later in Chicago. His son, John, practiced medicine, x-ray specialty, in Chicago. Dr. Gilmore was secretary of the Illinois State Medical society for a number of years.

#### *John W. Morrow*

Dr. Morrow was located in Marchand in 1873. In writing a history of this community, Marchand is so closely allied to Punxsutawney that one should mention this pioneer physician in Marchand. From the time Marchand was settled until the present time, there have been six physicians located in that place. The most noteworthy one to my mind and the one whom I remember distinctly was Dr. Morrow. He was a clean man who worked early and late in a very large area and was wise counsellor and a good general practitioner of medicine. He was a native of South Mahoning Township, was educated at Dayton Academy, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, and continued the practice there until he died. As is usual, he was a member of the Legislature for a number of terms from Indiana County. This seems to be a characteristic of former medical men to take an active interest in the lawmaking bodies of the state.

In the advertising business directory of Jefferson County in 1878, we see the following:

Mrs. James H. Baily, White Swelling Well Doctor. Warrants a cure in every case or no charge, and attends personally all patients. Residence three miles east on Craigs Hill, or address at Reynoldsville, Pa.

Even in 1878 we had our unlicensed practitioners or "quacks."

#### *Spencer Michael Free*

No history of the tri-county area would be complete without the mention of Samuel M. Free. A surgeon of DuBois, Pa., he was born in New Freedom, York County, Pa., September 19, 1856, son of Eli Wesley and Virginia Ann Michael Free. He graduated B.A. from the Ohio Wesleyan University in 1877, receiving the degree of M.A. from that institution in 1880; received his degree of M.D. at the College of Physicians



and Surgeons, Baltimore; 1880; post-graduate, Johns Hopkins, 1885-87. He practiced in DuBois, was surgeon at the DuBois Hospital and the Adrian Hospital, Punxsutawney, and was consulting surgeon at the Indiana Hospital. Dr. Free was formerly lecturer on medical ethics and economics at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore. In 1887-1905 he was inspector for the Pennsylvania Board of Health.

On February 8, 1882, he married May Irene Elway, of Altoona, Pa., who died in 1910.

Dr. Free is the author of many addresses, also short stories and about 300 songs and poems. Dr. Free was an excellent surgeon. He is reputed to have done the first herniotomy with resection of the bowel (6"). This was done in Washington Township in February, 1890. The first caesarian section in Jefferson County was performed in Brookville January 25, 1908, by Drs. Lawson, Brown and others. It was a complete success. Dr. Free was an excellent speaker on any subject. He was a versatile man, well educated and had a wonderful command of the English language and was an excellent teacher. He associated himself with some of the finest young men who practiced medicine in Jefferson County and in DuBois. These young men were certainly indebted to the doctor for wise training, wise counsel and the stamp of his splendid personality.

#### *William J. McKnight*

Among many of the great men who have contributed to medicine in Jefferson County, it would be utterly impossible not to record the splendid work of Dr. William J. McKnight, of Brookville, Pa. Perhaps no physician in the State of Pennsylvania contributed so much to the passing of the Anatomical Law which legalized human dissection. This led the way for the most marvelous advances in medical procedures. As a young student, Dr. McKnight was indicted along with the other doctors of Brookville and accused of robbing a grave which contained the body of a colored man and to have practiced dissection upon the body. At the time this was a method that medical schools and medical colleges had of teaching human anatomy to the students. Professional grave robbers furnished the bodies to the medical schools. Thank goodness this procedure is no longer practiced. Many years of Dr. McKnight's life were devoted to the passage in the Legislature of the present Anatomical Law which provides the medical colleges with the unclaimed bodies of persons dying in alms houses and they become the property of the State Anatomical Society to which they are delivered and the bodies prepared scientifically for modern dissection and teaching purposes. Aside from this very valuable contribution, he was a great doctor, a great surgeon, a high classed man and whom the area pioneers of Jefferson County must hold in deepest admiration. His descendants are still the McKnights of Brookville. Noteworthy, is Dr. McKnight's contribution to Jefferson County in the compiling of his wonderful pioneer history. This book is undoubtedly a fine contribution to the area history of Jefferson County and ranks equally with the History of Jefferson County by Kate Scott.

#### *George Michael Kurtz*

Dr. Kurtz was born in Germany and grew up there, enjoying excellent educational facilities. He came to America in his young manhood, and having

already spent some time in the study of medicine continued his studies in Philadelphia, where he completed his course of preparation for the profession he had chosen as his life work. Then he came westward to Jefferson County, being an early settler in Young Township, near Punxsutawney, where he purchased a large farm upon which he made his permanent home, looking after its development along with his medical practice, to which latter most of his time and energies were devoted. His skill and conscientious attention to his patents brought him success, and he was specially beloved and respected for his goodness to the poor of the county, none such ever calling for his services in vain. In fact, he availed himself to the utmost of the physician's opportunities, for helpfulness in any capacity, and was considered a model representative of his profession and of ideal citizenship. Though he lived to be 88 years old he continued in active practice up to within a few months of his death, which occurred in July, 1881. He is buried in the German Reformed Cemetery in Punxsutawney, and had been a member of the church of that denomination. He was mourned throughout the region as one of its most valuable citizens. Dr. Kurtz married Salome Hartzfelt, daughter of Henry Hartzfelt. She came to America from Germany with her parents when 13 years old, died at the age of 43, and is buried in Punxsutawney. Fire children were born to this union: Theodore M., Joseph L., George A., Anna M., wife of S. A. Rinn, and Olie, wife of William Pattorf.

#### *Letter by H. F. Weiss—March 1, 1949*

I have been asked if I knew Dr. Kurtz. I knew him from the time I was old enough to know anyone until his death and burial in the Lutheran Cemetery and later removed to Circle Hill Cemetery. The doctor was my mother's physician until her death and when he could not get in when needed, Dr. Altman was her other physician. I can recall seeing Dr. Kurtz ride in on his horse from his home just beyond Walston a short distance. I also noticed that his hair was a little long, but that was more the custom in those days in the seventies and eighties. The doctor had a regular drug store near his home and also the place for his customers and medical attention. My mother, when she was in her forties, was in a very serious condition, and Dr. Kurtz and Dr. Altman as a final effort, suggested certain cures and the result was that she recovered and lived until 81 years and one month. The last ten years of her life were grand, and she always thought there were no doctors like Dr. Kurtz and Dr. Altman. I can recall hearing Dr. Kurtz at his home mention of getting up on the hill back of his house and they they could hear the cannons during the battle of Gettysburg. I was at Kurtz's many times with Theodore after Bible class for confirmation at the Lutheran Church.

#### *John M. Fisher*

Dr. Fisher was a son of B. K. Fisher, ertswhile hotel man of Punxsutawney, Brookville and DuBois. He studied medicine with Dr. J. W. Faust, of Reynoldsville, as preceptor. He later attended Jefferson Medical College from which he graduated and located in Philadelphia; and, while he never practiced medicine in Punxsutawney, he was a Punxsutawney boy. He was a brother of Attorney Jacob L. Fisher. Dr. Fisher married Caroline Roff, of Philadelphia, who



still resides in that city. He had two children, Sarah and John. Dr. Fisher became professor of gynecology at Jefferson Medical College until his death a number of years ago. Dr. Fisher was an excellent surgeon and enjoyed a large practice. He performed many surgical operations in Punxsutawney. The writer is indebted to Dr. Fisher for much valuable learning and instruction which he received from this kind man.

#### William J. Gatti

Dr. Gatti was born August 2, 1892, in Walston, a son of Felix C. V. Gatti and was united in marriage November 14, 1916, to the former Rosa Wehry of this city.

He began the practice of medicine at the age of 21 years following his graduation in 1914 from the University of Maryland Medical School in Baltimore, Md. He previously had won a degree at St. Bonaventure College in Olean, N. Y. Following his admission to practice in Pennsylvania he studied general medicine and surgery in Germany.

He was one of Punxsutawney's most industrious and useful physicians. He enjoyed a huge practice. He was an untiring worker, his every thought was for the poor of the community and the service that he rendered to mankind is a monument to a useful life. Dr. Gatti's health broke about five years prior to his death in 1948, largely a result of over-work and service to suffering humanity.

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This rather extensive history of the practice of medicine in Punxsutawney since 1818 represents the contribution of all these men to medical service within this area and I feel that this service to suffering humanity is a monument to the medical profession. I challenge any system of socialized medicine in the next 100 years to match this service to mankind. I cannot think that in the United States that there are tens of millions of people doing without adequate medical service. It is unbelievable that any community as large as Jefferson County that had only 161 families, would be served by three physicians in 1818-1819 and 1820. I refer to Dr. Niver, of Summerville; Dr. John W. Jenks, of Punxsutawney, and Dr. J. Nichols, of Toby Valley and Brockway, along with the Rev. David Barclay, of Punxsutawney. The latter two men were preachers of the gospel.

The advance of medical science from the saddle bag and blood letting days is simply astounding. Formerly, the procedure of blood letting was barbarously carried out and the poor patient would fall forward and faint, having giving up his vital blood so badly needed to combat his illness. This came to an end in most cases about 1860. It seems to me if one remembers the first major surgical operation performed in Jefferson County with a hunting knife, ligatures of deer hide and the bone in the amputation of the leg being cut square off with an ordinary saw and not even the soft tissues brought over the end of the stump for a pad; in comparison with the surgical procedures that take place in our hospitals daily, the advances in medicine become apparent. The contributions to abdominal, intestinal, gastric, surgery of the kidney, surgery of the female organs, operative obstetrical procedures, joint surgery, bone surgery, and brain surgery. These procedures are so common that one sometimes forgets that they have not always been available to suffering mankind.

The discovery of bacteria and the introduction of asepsis and the development of clean, antiseptic surgery, has made possible these great surgical advances.

One of the most important advances has been the modern treatment of diseases of the eye, the correction of errors in vision by glasses, the removal of cataract by operation, the operations for glaucoma, so useful in preventing blindness. And with the ear, operations of the mastoid, restoring diseased parts, preventing meningitis and operations of the nose and throat, particularly the removal of tonsils. These are so common, they hardly attract attention. Again, the care of the diabetic patient, his regulation of diet, essential to his continued living, the use of insulin in the treatment of diabetes; the education of the public concerning cancer and its early treatment, all these are contributions. In addition, the laboratory of the hospital and of the doctor's office, the examination of blood, urine, blood tests, and diagnosis and treatment of syphilis, the use of sulpha and penicillin and streptomycin and other antibiotic drugs, all these are improvements. These new remedies are arriving more rapidly than the profession is able to be skilled in their safe use. Again, one must remember that fractures are treated and the diagnosis confirmed by use of the x-ray as a wonderful advance in fracture work. The use of x-ray in the treatment of malignant growth is another step forward. Pre-natal management of the pregnant woman has advanced marvelously, the care of the woman as to diet, nutrition, weight control, correction of diseases so that the baby may be well born and healthy at birth. Even though it may come of syphilitic parents, no syphilitic baby need be born with syphilis, neither rich nor poor alike, since the discovery of penicillin and its use pre-natally, prevents this disease in the new born. One might add many, many more advances; I cannot mention them all.

The work of the Pennsylvania State Department of Health and of its clinics, its sanatoria, its pre-natal clinics, its well child clinics, clinics for the treatment of social diseases and for years, the medical examination of school children and new advances toward correcting the abnormalities found in school children, are contributions leading to better health. Lastly, we have organized through the State Medical Society, prepaid medical service and prepaid hospitalization on an insurance basis. This is obtainable by almost anyone, so that the cost of illness can be more or less paid for while one is well. This is an out-growth of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society and is recommended to the public for protection against a rainy day of illness. All these developments in science and in medical service have been the outcome of free medical enterprise and have resulted from the endeavors of the medical profession to provide better service to all.

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#### COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES

On July 3, 1857, a call was published in the *Jefferson Star* by Drs. A. P. Heichhold and J. G. Simons for the physicians of Jefferson County "to meet at the courthouse in the borough of Brookville, on the 10th of July, 1857, at ten o'clock a. m., to organize a medical society. The call was responded to, and

"In compliance with a call to the members of the medical profession in Jefferson County, a meeting was held in Brookville and a county medical society



was formed with the following members: Drs. C. P. Cummins, Mark Rodgers, Charles Baker, A. J. Johnston, R. B. Brown, W. J. McKnight, D. A. Elliott, J. G. Simons and A. P. Heichhold.

"The meeting was organized by calling Dr. M. Rodgers to the chair, and Dr. A. P. Heichhold was appointed secretary pro tem."

The second medical society was organized in January, 1865.

The third county medical society was organized September 11, 1877, as follows: Pursuant to a previous call the following physicians met September 11, 1877, at the office of Drs. C. M. and W. F. Matson, for the purpose of organizing the Jefferson County Medical Society, viz.: Drs. John Thompson, J. W. Foust, J. C. King, W. M. B. Gibson, W. F. Matson, A. F. Balmer and C. M. Matson.

Dr. C. M. Matson was elected president and Dr. A. F. Balmer, secretary. Drs. R. B. Brown, John Thompson, W. F. Matson and A. F. Balmer were appointed a committee on constitution and by-laws, and the meeting adjourned to meet in the same place September 25, 1877.

At the meeting of September 25th, the report of the committee on constitution and by-laws was adopted, and the officers nominated to be elected at the next meeting, to be held October 9, 1877, at which Dr. C. M. Matson was elected president; Dr. John Thompson, vice president; Dr. A. F. Balmer, recording secretary; Dr. W. F. Matson, corresponding secretary; Dr. R. B. Brown, treasurer, and Dr. J. W. Foust, censor for three years, Dr. R. M. Rankin, censor for two years, and Dr. J. C. King, censor for one year. The society was chartered in May, 1887. Its meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.

The following physicians contributed to medical History in Punxsutawney, 1894 to date:

1—Abraham Herbert Allen—born, Philadelphia; residence, Walston; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May, 1903; licensed, July 30, 1903.

2—Harry Weaver Allison—born, Saltsburg, Pa.; residence, Worthville, Pa., later removed to Kittanning; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, June 5, 1911; licensed, August 10, 1911. He specialized in pediatrics.

3—George M. B. Bradshaw—born, Crawford County; residence, Anita, Pa.; graduated: Columbia University, Washington, D. C., May 28, 1900; licensed, December 29, 1903.

4—Augustinus A. Bankroft—born: Nelson, Portage County, Ohio; residence, Anita, Pa.; graduated, Homeopathic Medical College, Philadelphia, Feb. 27, 1869; practiced in Detroit, Mich., Pittsburgh; licensed, not shown; county register, November 11, 1905.

5—Jacob Peter Bottenhorn—born, Oliver Township, Jefferson County; residence, Anita, Pa.; graduated, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, Ohio, April 28, 1904; licensed, September 12, 1904. Assisted Dr. W. F. Beyer, Sykesville and Sigel, Pa.

6—Edwin McKay—born, Westville, Nova Scotia; residence, Anita, Pa. Accounts Dr. Thornton R. Williams; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., April 29, 1901; licensed, July 31, 1901. Married Belle Jenks, great-granddaughter of John W. Jenks, M.D.

7—Harry Patton St. Clair—born, Punxsutawney (Clayville); residence, Punxsutawney and Butler, Pa.;

graduated, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, Ohio, April 15, 1902; licensed, August 4, 1902.

8—David B. Hoch—born, Punxsutawney, son of Jacob Hoch; residence, Punxsutawney and Williamsburg, Pa.; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 16, 1899; licensed, July 22, 1899.

9—Henry William Ernest—born, Punxsutawney; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Baltimore Medical College, Baltimore, Md., April 13, 1897; licensed, January 5, 1903.

10—James Howard Dasher—born, Blair County, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney and Erie, Pa.; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, June 19, 1903; licensed, July 30, 1903. He was an associate of Dr. John E. Grube. He made his permanent residence in Erie, and was held in highest esteem. He was married to Carrie Crissman, R.N., daughter of Robert C. Crissman, West End, Punxsutawney.

11—Charles Edward Peach—born, Rochester, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, Chicago, Ill., April 22, 1902; licensed, July 8, 1902.

12—Francis Davenport Pringle—born, Plymouth, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, June 1, 1903; licensed, July 30, 1903. Superintendent of Adrian Hospital. He was a surgeon and associated with W. S. Blaisdell.

13—Frank Alexander Lorenzo—born, Italy; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Columbia University, New York, N. Y., 1904; licensed, February 9, 1905.

14—James Robert Smith—born, New York; residence, Walston; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 28, 1904; licensed, September 6, 1905. He was associated with Dr. F. D. Pringle.

15—Harry Robert Gourley—born, Perry Township, Jefferson County, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, Ohio, April 15, 1902; licensed, July 30, 1903. He was associated with Dr. S. S. Hamilton.

16—Francis Clifford Smathers—born, DuBois; residence, DuBois, Big Run, and Punxsutawney; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, June 2, 1905; licensed, September 6, 1905. He was chief of x-ray and laboratory service at hospital.

17—Wayne Lawrence Snyder—born, Brookville; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, June 2, 1905; licensed, September 6, 1905. He was an associate of Dr. J. E. Grube in the Punxsutawney Hospital and afterward located in Brookville, where he became chief surgeon and founder of the Brookville Hospital.

18—Walter John Whitehouse, Jr.—born, Pottsville, Pa.; residence, Anita, Pa.; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 27, 1905; licensed, September 6, 1905.

19—Roy Lowry Young—born, Strattonville, Clarion County, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney and Warren, Pa.; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, June 2, 1905; licensed, September 6, 1905. Eye, ear and nose specialist. He was a grandson of Dr. William Altman.

20—James Clarence Frye, general practitioner—born, Glasgow, Cambria County, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Baltimore Medical College, Baltimore, Md., June 1, 1911; licensed, August 10, 1911.

21—J. Gardner Kearney—born, Lanes Mills, Pa.; residence, Anita, Reynoldsville, Pa., Penn'a Dept. of



Health Tuberculosis Sanitarium; graduated, Temple University, Philadelphia, June 9, 1912; licensed, August 28, 1912.

22—William J. Gatti, general practitioner—born, Walston, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney, and retired to Bryn Mawr, Pa.; graduate, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., June 1, 1914; licensed, July 26, 1915.

23—John Andrew Tushim—born, Punxsutawney; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, June 2, 1927; licensed, August 23, 1928.

24—Desiderius George Mankovich—born, Hungary; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md., June 6, 1931; pre-med., University of Pennsylvania, 2 years; licensed, August 26, 1932.

25—David Ernst Matzke—born, Stanford, Calif.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, June 17, 1925, and Haverford College, Haverford, Pa., June 19, 1921. He was associated with Dr. J. E. Grube of the Punxsutawney Hospital.

26—Francis James Trunzo—born, Wishaw, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, June 7, 1934, and St. Bonaventure College, June 13, 1929; licensed, August 28, 1935.

27—Russell Crawford Gourley—born, Jefferson County, Pa.; residence, Big Run, Troutville, Punxsutawney; graduated, Western University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, March 22, 1894; licensed, June 16, 1894.

28—John Holmes Murray—born, Gaskill Township, Jefferson County, Pa.; residence, Reynoldsville, Pa., relocated in Punxsutawney; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 11, 1895; licensed, July 18, 1895.

29—Robert Hamilton Miller—born, Hamilton, Pa.; residence, Hamilton; graduated, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, May 15, 1896; licensed, July 20, 1896.

30—Parker P. Homer—born, Clover Township, Jefferson County, Pa.; residence, Coolspring, Pa.; graduated, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky., March 13, 1894; licensed, July 18, 1895.

31—Harry Stunkard—born, Grange, Pa.; residence, Horatio, Pa.; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., March 25 or 26, 1896; licensed, July 20, 1896.

32—Charles Robert Stevenson—born, Jefferson County, Pa.; residence, Delancey, Punxsutawney and Ebensburg, Pa.; graduated, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Md., April 20, 1896; licensed, July 28, 1897.

33—Harold Cummings White—born, Houtzdale, Pa.; residence, Beach Lake, Pa.; graduated, Long Island College Hospital, Long Island, N. Y., March, 1894; licensed, December 28, 1895.

34—John Alexander James—born, Bedford County, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney and Yatesboro; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 12, 1894; licensed, June 16, 1894.

35—Albert William Clark—born, New Brunswick, Canada; residence, Punxsutawney and Walston; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., April 18, 1894; licensed, December 28, 1898. He assisted Dr. Walter Blaisdell.

36—Joseph Philip Benson—born, Brady's Bend, Pa.; residence, Anita, Eleanora, Punxsutawney; graduated, Medical Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, May 20, 1899; licensed, Dec. 30, 1899.

37—Samuel Meigs Beyer—born, Punxsutawney; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, June 17, 1907; licensed, August 14, 1907.

38—Robert Oliver Blacklock—born, Buffalo, N. Y.; residence, Big Run, Eleanora and McKeesport, Pa.; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., June, 1907; licensed, August 11, 1908.

39—Francis Louis Benson—born, East Brady, Pa.; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md. (no date); licensed, December 30, 1911.

40—William Caldwell Wilson—born, New York, N. Y.; residence West End, Punxsutawney; graduated, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, N. Y., June 13, 1900; licensed, October 9, 1900.

41—Benjamin Wallace Hamilton—born, Harrisburg, Pa.; residence, Walston, Pa., then to New York City; graduated, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, June 15, 1901; licensed, July 31, 1901. Assisted Dr. Walter Blaisdell.

42—Pier Guiseppe Spinelli—born, Italy; residence, Punxsutawney; graduated, University of Naples, Naples, Italy, July 26, 1898, also Board of State of New York, June 4, 1902; licensed, August 22, 1902. He was a fine, smart gentleman.

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The following is a list of women physicians of Jefferson County: Dr. Elizabeth M. Merritt Hooper, Dr. Beatrice Hamilton Gilmore, Dr. Elizabeth Lewis, Dr. Eleanor Walter, Dr. M. Virginia Beyer, Dr. Edith Matzke, Dr. Jeanne Cooper.

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The present practitioners of Punxsutawney are those represented by the staff of the Adrian Hospital. Inasmuch as these men are active and living, any comments as to ability, position, or worth, would be more or less, blasphemous. A-men!

The following men are members of this staff: F. A. Lorenzo, president and chief of surgery; C. J. Seitz, vice president; D. G. Mankovich, secretary and treasurer and chief of pediatrics; J. P. Benson, chief of obstetrics and gynecology; S. M. Beyer, chief of medicine; W. L. Brohm, chief of neurology; C. G. Brohm, E. P. Gigliotti, S. S. Hamilton, R. M. Jacobson, radiologist; J. M. Lukehart, chief of eye, ear, nose and throat; F. J. Trunzo, J. A. Tushim, H. W. Lyon, chief of urology; R. F. O'Connor, L. R. McCauley, Jeanne Cooper; W. A. Hill, Reynoldsville; H. D. Maginley, Big Run; A. R. Wilson, Dayton.

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#### *Dr. Roger M. Longwell, Chiropodist*

Dr. Roger M. Longwell, chiropodist, attended Amherst College and Ohio School of Chiropody. Before coming to Punxsutawney in 1940, he had practiced in Brookville, Brockway, New Bethlehem, Emporium and Clarion. Today (1949) he alternates his practice between Punxsutawney and Brookville.

#### *Dr. E. H. Moyer, Chiropractor*

Dr. E. H. Moyer, Chiropractor, graduated from the Universal Chiropractic School of Pittsburgh. Before coming to Punxsutawney in April, 1947, he practiced in Connellsville, Pa.



*Mercen C. Hurd, Osteopath*

Mercen C. Hurd, Osteopath, was graduated from the American School of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, Mo., in 1911. Dr. Hurd practiced in Flint, Mich., and came to Punxsutawney in 1938. His office is in his home at 221 W. Mahoning Street.

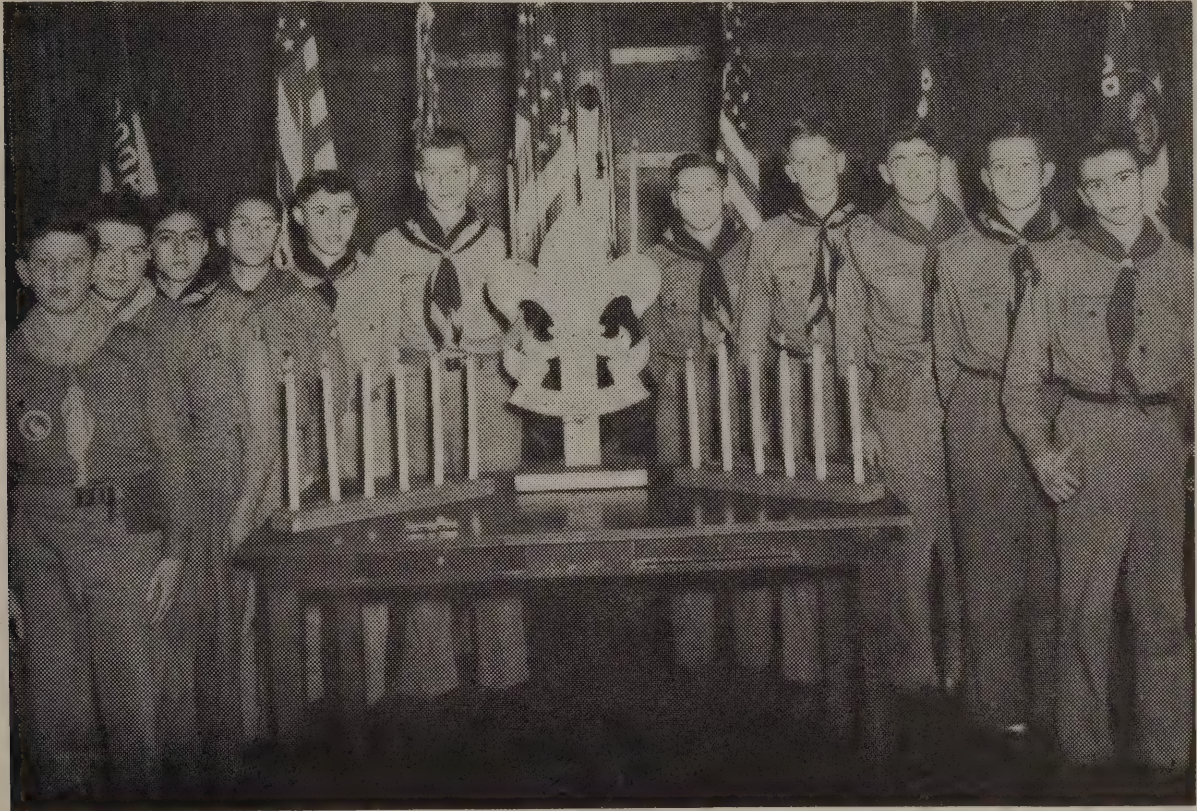
*Dr. J. G. Bethune, Veterinarian*

Dr. J. G. Bethune, Veterinarian, graduated from the Ohio Veterinary College, Cincinnati, Ohio, in

1893. He located in Punxsutawney in that same year and practiced here for 46 years. He has retired and is now living near Vero Beach, Florida.

*Dr. Mandon D. Rentschler, Veterinarian*

Dr. Mandon D. Rentschler, Veterinarian, is a graduate of McKillip Veterinary College. Before coming to Punxsutawney in 1911, he practiced in New Holland, Pa. His Dog and Cat Hospital is located at 232 North Front Street.



**HIGH RANKING BOY SCOUTS**—The 11 boys pictured above received Star Scout awards during the past year. They belong to troops in the Mahoning Valley District of the William Penn Council, which includes the Punxsutawney area. Scouting in this district has grown rapidly under competent leadership and community cooperation. The Star Scouts in the picture are, left to right: James Shields and David Varner, Punxsutawney; Robert Good, Dayton; Harvey Smith, Punxsutawney; Louis Rigatti, Frank Hollenbaugh, Bernard Steffy and Lyle Barrett, Dayton; James Beatty, Jr., Punxsutawney; Roy Thomas, Dayton, and Bud VanDyke, Punxsutawney.

*Dr. J. Miles Grube\**

Dr. J. Miles Grube graduated from the Medico-Chirurgical College in Philadelphia in 1890. This medical college is now a part of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Grube located in Clayville (West End, Punxsutawney), and was associated in practice with his brother, Dr. John E. Grube, and Dr. Diltz.

Dr. Miles Grube was primarily a general practitioner of medicine, as well as a trustworthy and capable surgeon. Dr. Grube's devotion to the practice of medicine is exemplified in his untimely death, caused by physical over-exertion and strain caused by his efforts to extricate his car from a series of snow drifts in which he became marooned both in making an emergency visit to a very sick patient and his attempted return home, which resulted in his death.

This establishes better than any tribute we might pay to him, his devotion to what he regarded as an almost sacred calling.

No visit was too far or too difficult for him to make, and I am sure the Medal of True Merit and Devotion should have been pinned over his heart.

He was married to Kate Douglas, a daughter of Mrs. John R. Pantall. To this union were born one son John, and two daughters, Alma and Erma, the latter the wife of M. C. Eberhart.—*Dr. S. M. Beyer.*

\*Editor's note: When copy for the medical section of this history was presented to the printer, mention of Dr. J. Miles Grube and Dr. John E. Grube was combined in one article, but it was largely devoted to Dr. J. E. Grube. When this was called to the attention of the author he recalled that he had written of J. Miles Grube in a separate sketch, which copy was apparently lost before it reached the printer. Another was written but it did not reach the printer until the section devoted to the medical history was off the presses. It is therefore presented here out of position.





The above is a reproduction of a Rosenberger photograph of the plaza fronting Barclay Square as it appeared in 1880. Notice the public scales in the right center foreground.



Two La France "pumpers" are shown in action shortly after their purchase in 1949. One piece of equipment was purchased by the borough and assigned to the Central Fire Company. The other piece was purchased by the Central Company out of its own funds.



## CHAPTER VIII

# PUNXSUTAWNEY'S PART IN FOUR WARS

Compiled by BETSY GIBSON

### THE CIVIL WAR

One of the most important events affecting the history of Punxsutawney was the Civil War. This war, although a detriment to the progress of the little town, added to its name laurels which would not otherwise have been gained.

In the year 1859 before the outbreak of the war, there was an encampment held, the only one in Punxsutawney in that period. The men camped where the railroad ran in front of the O. H. Nordstrom residence and brick works. The following men were captains: Joseph B. Morris, south end of Jefferson County; Moses A. Morris, south end of Jefferson County; Sirwell, from Kittanning; A. A. McKnight, from Brookville; Frence, from Ringgold, Artillery; Brady, from Brookville, Inspector.

The encampment was regarded as a great event and somewhat of a holiday. There were peanuts, gingerbread, small beer for the young, and "firewater" for the men and soldiers.

Just before the outbreak of the war everyone was subject to great strain, which was especially evident from the time that Abraham Lincoln was sworn in as President.

When the call to arms was sounded in 1860, Punxsutawney nobly contributed her most able-bodied men. The following men left Punxsutawney and vicinity and enlisted in Company I, 8th Regiment, Pa. Volunteer Infantry: John Hastings, A. C. White, Steele S. Williams, William J. Bair, Samuel Hibler, Joseph W. Walkup, Arch Hadden and John Stiver.

On April 24, 1861, the men were mustered into the U. S. service for three months. The officers of the company were: Captain A. A. McKnight, First Lieutenant John Hastings, 2nd Lieutenant Harmon Dratz. The war did not end in the specified three months. At the end of that time the men returned home and immediately raised the 105th Regiment. Through the untiring efforts of Captain John Hastings, this regiment was recruited in three days. The officers were: Colonel A. A. McKnight, Captain John Hastings, First Lieutenant William Neal, and 2nd Lieutenant Moses A. Morris. These men were mustered in September 9, 1861, at Pittsburgh.

Captain Hastings, who was severely wounded in the second battle of Bull Run, was forced to resign and the command devolved upon Captain W. J. Clyde. Captain Clyde fell in the "Battle of the Wilderness," upon which Lieutenant A. H. Mitchell was promoted to the captaincy. Before Lieutenant Mitchell received his commission, he was discharged because of wounds received at Petersburg, whereupon Lieutenant John H. McKee was made captain.

A number of Punxsutawney men served in other regiments and distinguished themselves as brave soldiers. E. H. Little was captain of Company I, 62nd

Regiment. Captain Little was killed at Gettysburg July 2, 1863. John T. Bell, another Punxsutawney boy who at the time of Captain Little's death was a first lieutenant (of Co. K, 78th Regiment), succeeded to the command of the company. R. M. Dinsmore became first lieutenant of Company K, 78th Regiment; Thomas K. Hastings, first lieutenant of Company H, 105th Regiment; H. C. Campbell, first lieutenant of Company B, 206th Regiment.

In June of 1863, another company was raised in and around Punxsutawney in the south end of Jefferson County and the north end of Indiana County. The officers were: Captain William Neal, First Lieutenant Thomas K. Hastings; 2nd Lieutenant William Brown. On June 17, 1863, John Bair and Lorenzo D. Bair enlisted in this company. They left Punxsutawney, went to Indiana in common road wagons, and from there traveled to Pittsburgh where they camped for three days outside of the city on the banks of the Monongahela River. During that time a battalion known as the 2nd Battalion, 6 month Pa. Vol. Inf. was organized. The company recruited in June was put into it as Company C. The officers were: Lieut. Colonel John C. Sininger, Major Harmon Dratz, and Adjutant Thomas K. Hastings.

Mr. Bair writes that on July 11, 1863, his company left Pittsburgh and went to Wheeling, W. Va., whence they proceeded to Cumberland City, Md. They were then scattered as a guard along the B. and O. Railroad. The Bair brothers returned home in January, 1864. Lorenzo D. Bair re-enlisted on December 21, 1864, in Co. K, 45th Pa. Vol. Inf., and was killed on April 2, 1865, near Petersburg, Virginia, only one week before Lee surrendered. He is buried in an unknown grave in the Southland.

The following are items taken from the personal recollections of George Torrence and I. H. Wilson:

There was no celebration in 1864, when George Torrence left Punxsutawney with Martin Williams, Joseph Long, Mr. Stiver, Clay Campbell and others. Friends bade them goodbye and went home sorrowing. Mr. Torrence, later a captain, tells of how his father took him aside and told him not to do anything that would disgrace the family. With that admonition the 16-year-old soldier went to Indiana to be examined with the rest of the "boys." Those who passed were sent to Pittsburgh. When the examining doctor doubted that he was 18, Mr. Torrence was asked to swear to his age but was saved by a friend who assured the authorities that the young George had his parents' consent.

At one time Mr. Torrence and Mr. Williams were given passes to visit Mr. Torrence's brother in another division. When the boys returned in the evening very tired from the long journey, they were assigned to picket duty. Though they were worn out, they had to obey. Mr. Torrence leaned his gun against a tree and, to keep from going to sleep, watched the enemy



fire. After some time a heavy hand was laid on his shoulder and the captain asked where his gun was. He replied, "It's right here," but, when he reached for it, his hand encountered only empty air. The captain told him that the enemy had taken the guns and that he would probably be court-martialed because sleeping on duty was a serious offense. However, he was saved when another captain reported the officer who had haddened the gun as a joke.

I. H. Wilson, in the following letters to his brother, tells of some of his experiences in the Civil War:

Washington, May 8th

Dear Brother:

You have probably heard that our Brigade was in the city. Our company was left back to guard the old camp on Miners Hill until the quartermasters would see fit to take the tents, etc., away. They came on last Sunday and on Tuesday we came into the city. We do guard duty at the Old Capital and Carroll prisons and about the depot. We got paid four months pay day before yesterday. We still have two months pay due us, which we will probably get in about two weeks.

I mailed a letter yesterday to Mary containing \$15. I would liked to have sent her more but the fact is, our Sutler's bills were very heavy, and after paying that \$15 took the biggest part of my pile. We have almost boarded ourselves since coming from the front. We had lived nearly a year on nothing but "hard tack," etc., and of course we had strong appetites for something fit to eat when we came back and bought freely of the Sutler when he brought anything tempting. I may add that our Sutler is a *decent man*, and takes no advantage of the soldiers.

All is excitement here about Hooker, but we do not yet know what has been done. We do not believe we have gained anything like a victory. We have got a great many rebels in prison here within the last three or four days.

Old Heintzelman shut down on furloughs about the time the army commenced to move. There is no way of getting home now.

I have not heard from Cyrus for some time. I believe his regiment is not in any of the fights at least I hope not. I seen a rumor in the papers here that Col. McKnight, of the 105th, had been killed. Is it true?

I wish you would let me know if Mary gets that money.

I have nothing more to write. My health continues good. Affectionately yours,

I. H. Wilson

Camp near Fredericksburg  
May 27, '62

Dear Brother:

Your letter reached me yesterday. We moved across the river yesterday afternoon and are now in camp in a clover field about a mile south of the city. From all I can learn this morning our Brigade is to remain here for the present. Our Brigadier General (Reynolds) is appointed military governor of the place and it is not likely that we will go any further south for some time at least. The citizens around us are very bitter and vicious, and will need close watching. On Sunday, a sentinel was blown to fragments by stepping on a torpedo while walking his "beat" near

a hospital. They would kill us all if they could but we are not afraid of any rebel soldiers.

Old Abe was out here to see us last week. He serviced McCall's Division and expressed himself well pleased with it. I believe the old fellow is trying to do as well as he can under the cirmustances. He done a good thing with Hunter's "Proclamation."

I can think of nothing more to write now. My health continues excellent. My love to all of you

Affectionately yours,

I. H. Wilson

Direct as before.

Chickahoming  
June 27

Dear Brother:

We have been in a fight for two days and our regt. has suffered severely. I have so far escaped all harm, tho the balls and infernal shells flew like hail. Our Co. has had several wounded, but, strange to tell, none killed. The papers will tell you if we done our duty. The Reserve suffered severely. Capt. Brady is killed. I seen the 62nd Rgt. this morning. They are badly cut up. I seen Jim, Tim McKee, young Jordan, Bill Torrence, Ed. Little, a young Smyers and others all safe. I could not set the names of the killed of their Company. The gallant Black fell at the head of his men. Our Brig. Gen., Reynolds, is missing. The Rebels are gone back to Richmond. I believe all is quiet this morning, but the fighting is not over. Our forces are all arriving and I firmly believe we will succeed. I have no time to write more. Will write again, if any movement takes place, and I am spared.

My love to all of you.

Affectionately yours,

I. H. Wilson

Prominent among our war heroes was Captain Edwin H. Little, in whose honor the E. H. Little G.A.R. Post was named. The following is a summary of his life.

Edwin H. Little was born August 14, 1833, at Bridge Water, Pa. He came with his parents to Punxsutawney during the year 1852. On July 26, 1852, he married Margaret E. Campbell. The Littles had three children, Anna, Emma, and Edwin H. Jr. Edwin Little joined a company recruited from Punxsutawney and surrounding communities, which left with full ranks on July 24, 1861. The company proceeded to Camp Naught near Pittsburgh, where they mustered in as Independent Regiment No. 133. Robert R. Means was captain, Edwin H. Little, first lieutenant, and John T. Bell, 2nd lieutenant. Captain Means was wounded and taken prisoner near Maborn Hill. First Lieutenant Little became captain of the company, which he led through many battles until he met his death in the battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. Captain Little is buried in the old cemetery on North Findley Street, Punxsutawney.

Hardman Alabran, father of the late Mrs. Anna Philliber, belonged to the Wild Cat Regiment during the war. It was a fortunate habit of Mr. Alabran to carry a small Bible in his left breast pocket. A bullet aimed for his heart struck and penetrated three-fourths of the Bible. He owed his life to the bullet-pierced Bible, which is still in existence today.



## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

During the Spanish-American War Punxsutawney was a most loyal town. On July 15, 1898, Company 5, of the Sixteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, consisting of three officers and 106 men, was recruited from Punxsutawney. The officers of the company were Captain John D. Croasman, 1st Lieutenant I. H. Boyle, and 2nd Lieutenant Patrick J. McMahon.

The next day, July 16, the entire contingent left for Cincinnati, reached there the next morning. The evening of July 17, they arrived at Chickamauga, Georgia, and the next morning left for Rossville, Georgia. The company remained there until July 27, on which date they broke camp and marched to the train which carried them to Newport News, Va. The regiment expected to sail the next day but, because a battalion from a Kentucky regiment was sent instead, camped there on the banks of James Bay until August 17.

It was here the first death in the company occurred, when Bruce Tweed died of typhoid fever.

On the eve of August 17 the company started for Middletown, Pa. On September 13 the troops left for New York City, and on the 14th sailed for Porto Rico on the German transport "Obdam."

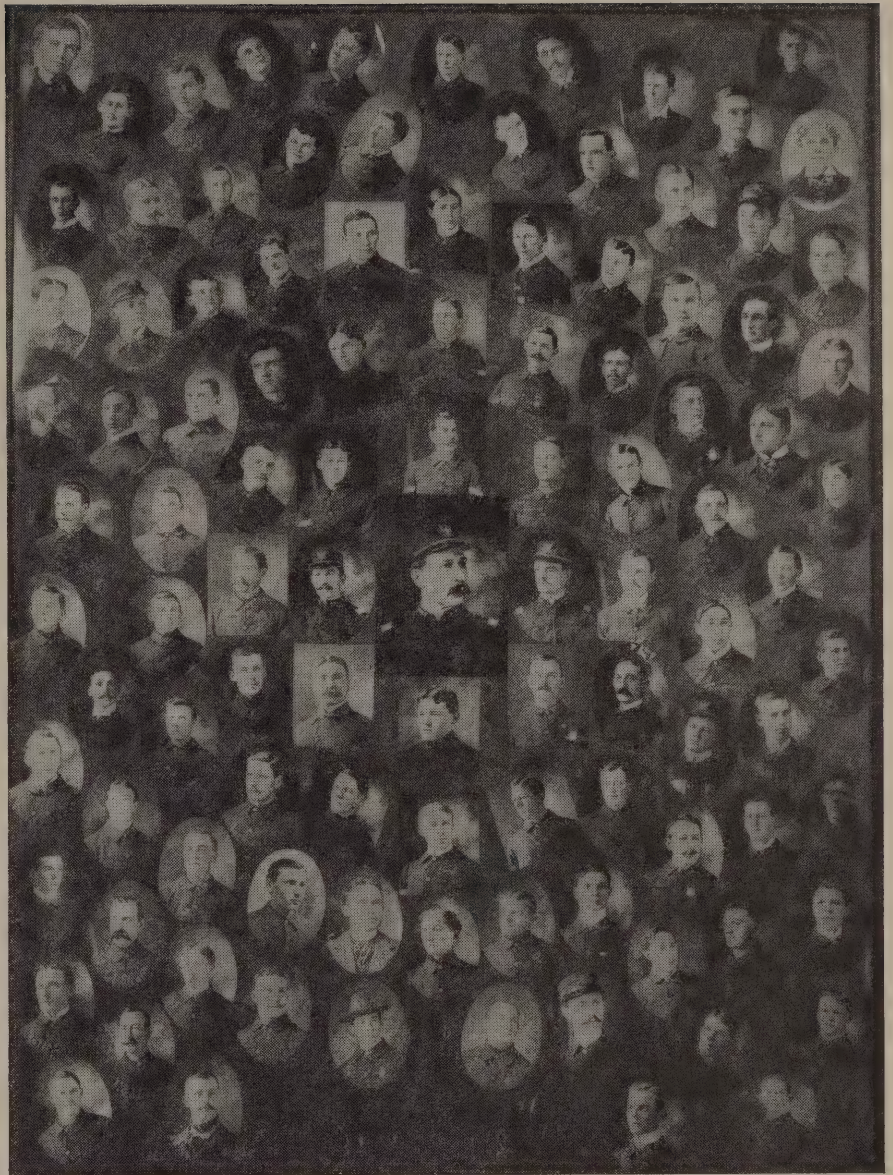
When they were off Cape Hatteras, a violent storm occurred; and the force of the waves swept everything off the top decks. The old captain of the vessel said it was the worst storm he had ever seen. Nearly everyone on the ship suffered from sea sickness. In due time, they arrived at San Juan, but, as that port was closed, they had to go to Ponce, a town on the other side of the island. After the company had camped there about two weeks, they received orders to embark for home.

The day they sailed homeward, the birds were singing, flowers were blooming, and everything was beautiful. When the company arrived in New York, it was snowing.

December 16, 1898, the boys left New York for Punxsutawney. The next day there was a huge parade, after which the soldiers were demobilized.

A Spanish-American War Post was named for Herman Hughes, who died in Cuba.

On the "turnpikes" of pioneer days there was a toll-gate every five or ten miles. The tolls were used to keep the road in repair and gangs of men were constantly at work.



Company L, Sixteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

## WORLD WAR I

Punxsutawney was naturally affected very deeply by the first World War, as was every other small American community. The following paragraphs give a brief account of Punxsutawney's part in the war.

On January 17, 1917, *The Spirit* reported that 21 ships had been sunk or captured by fast German raiders. On February 2 the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was announced as the result of the ruthless war on the sea. On April 4, 1917, *The Spirit* announced the official declaration of war.

During the war Punxsutawney supported the War Savings Stamp issue as she did every other war drive. The 25-cent War Savings Stamps sent out by the government were more convenient for school children than the \$5.00 stamps, or "Baby Bonds." The stamps were distributed by banks, post offices, schools, and stores. Jefferson County's allotment of stamps was \$1,577,500, \$100,434 worth of which were sold by Punxsutawney alone during the first year.



At the time of the Third Liberty Loan celebration, one of the trophy trains, sent by Uncle Sam to encourage the buying of bonds, came to Punxsutawney. in the coach of the train helmets, medals, small weapons, pictures of "No Man's Land," etc., were displayed; on the flat cars machine guns, small cannon, large shells, and a shell carriage could be viewed by the public.

Later a second trophy train containing war implements, trophies and pictures of France and Belgium visited the city.

### *Celebrations*

Fourth of July, 1917: One of the greatest days in the history of Punxsutawney was the Fourth of July, 1917. The chief speaker of the day, Martin G. Brumbaugh, Governor of Pennsylvania, delivered an impressive address on the prohibition amendment, education, good roads, and the World War.

The parade of the day was thought by some to be the largest and best ever viewed in Punxsutawney. Many of the large stores and business establishments were represented by floats and banners on trucks; also participating were the Boy and Girl Scouts, different lodges of the town, and a number of soldiers, army equipment, and trucks from the Ridgway Post.

At one o'clock, a salute of nine rounds, fired by the Sons of Veterans, announced the raising of the large town flag on a wooden pole nearly 100 feet in height.

Third Liberty Loan Celebration: Two thousand persons, with ardor undampened by an intermittent chilling drizzle of rain, marched through crowded streets the night of April 26, 1918, in Punxsutawney's biggest parade. This spectacle symbolized the community's determination to uphold to the utmost the cause for which two of her sons had already given their lives. That moving tableau of patriotism, in answer to President Wilson's call for the observance of Liberty Day, came at a moment when the community was stirred to war realization more than ever before; scores of Punxsutawney boys were preparing to leave Camp Lee and Camp Hancock and join those already in France with Pershing, and calls were issued for two contingents to depart within the next six days.

A feature of the parade was a float on which was represented the Goddess of Liberty, surrounded by four maids of Liberty in white, with red, white and blue over their shoulders. Miss Margaret Barton was the central figure and the four maids were: Mrs. S. C. Goheen, Mrs. Marie Hilliard, Miss Alice Evans and Miss Frances Hess.

A striking figure in the procession was Mrs. Joseph Sink, dressed as Joan of Arc, mounted on a black horse.

The Red Cross Parade: In June, 1918, a patriotic Red Cross parade was held to encourage the citizens of Punxsutawney in their Red Cross work. The affair consisted of the members of the Red Cross, secret orders, fire companies, mothers of soldiers, our own and some out-of-town bands, school children, and several floats.

Armistice Day Celebration: The residents of Punxsutawney were awakened about 3 o'clock in the morning of November 11, 1918, by the ringing of bells and the blowing of whistles. The cause of the tur-

moil was, of course, the signing of the Armistice, ending the great war that had been raging for nearly five years. By 4 o'clock, almost everyone in town was on the streets making noise with every imaginable device. On the afternoon of the same day, there was a large parade composed of all the fraternal orders of Punxsutawney, automobiles, and furloughed soldiers. After the parade, several speeches were made from the bandstand by prominent citizens. In the evening a huge bonfire was held in Barclay Square. The streets were crowded with people all night.

The Victory Loan Celebration: The Victory Liberty Loan, which ended on May 10, 1919, was celebrated because of its great success in Punxsutawney.

On May 9, 1919, a rally was held in the First Methodist Church, with Reverend C. A. Williams presiding over the meeting. The first of three speakers on the program was Lieutenant Voorsanger, a soldier who had been recalled from China to help in the training of troops and to serve in France. He was followed by Lieutenant Garver, an American "Ace" who had seen 14 months of active flying service in France. The last speaker was John L. Rutledge, formerly a member of the Hoover Commission. The three speakers, all of whom were received with enthusiasm, prepared the way for the success and celebration of the Victory Loan in Punxsutawney.

On May 10, in the midst of its celebration, Punxsutawney went "over the top" in the loan. A war tank with its trailer was brought to town to encourage the buying of bonds. About 40 high school girls assisted in selling bonds that day. In the evening, the Great Lakes Naval Training Band, accompanied by several speakers, came to boost the district "over the top."

### *Memorials*

When Punxsutawney sent her stalwart sons to fight against the principles of the German government, she knew that some would not return; when the war drew to a close, she did not forget those who had so willingly sacrificed their lives. The following is an account of some of the memorial services held for the boys who did not return:

Harry Morrison: A memorial service was held in the Central Presbyterian Church December 7, 1917, for Harry Morrison, who died at the U. S. Army headquarters in France, November 22, 1917. The service was conducted by Reverend H. G. Teagarden, who spoke of Mr. Morrison's life with a personal touch. Reverend Burt followed this address with an impressive talk. The service was concluded by an address by the Hon. Lex N. Mitchell.

Eugene Brennan: The memorial service for Corporal Eugene Brennan, who died August 27, 1918, was held in the Reformed Church September 9, 1918. Reverend E. M. Dietrich, who was in charge of the service, used for his text this verse, "Let me die the death of the righteous, let my last end be like His."

We are informed by members of the regiment to which Corporal Brennan belonged that he was a prisoner in the hands of two guards, and escaped as a comrade shot down the guards. He then made his way to a river, but was shot while trying to swim across.

Raymond Snyder: The memorial service for Raymond Snyder was held in the Reformed Church



April 14, 1918. Raymond Snyder enlisted in the 18th Regiment, Co. F, Pennsylvania National Guard, at Indiana, Pa., June 10, 1916. He was sent to the border and later on October 5, 1916, was transferred to the First Pennsylvania Cavalry Troop. He was later transferred to Co. C, 194th Machine Gun Battalion, 42nd Division. He said for France October 7, 1917. His last letter sent home in February, 1918, stated that he was in a hospital.

**Punxsutawney's First Military Funeral:** The death of Captain Lewis Lardin, an officer in the World War, ex-state trooper and a veteran of the Spanish-American War, occasioned Punxsutawney its first military funeral. The funeral procession was headed by two squads of men, each squad commanded by two officers. These men were followed by six soldiers, carrying the flag draped casket, with eight officers marching on each side. Following the casket came a black horse, with the saddle reversed, and the blanket replaced by a large piece of black cloth, on which was sewn a golden star.

Reverend Williams held the funeral services at the Circle Hill Cemetery. Reverend Dietrich, an ex-army chaplain, spoke a few words after which the Elks Lodge delegates marched past the flower strewn coffin and placed white forget-me-nots on the casket.

**Lieut. John Jacob Fisher:** Lieutenant John Jacob Fisher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob L. Fisher, and an esteemed resident of Punxsutawney, was killed in a bombing plane some time before October 16, 1918. He insisted upon flying the large machine to its depot during very bad weather, was caught in a fog, and was killed while making a landing. His family was notified of his death by a letter from his close friend, Lieut. Richard Parmenter. Lieut. Parmenter commented that the funeral with full military honors was beautifully impressive. He informed the family that Lieut. Fisher's grave was in the American Cemetery at Mailley, in the Department of Aube.

In June of 1917 Lieutenant Fisher went into the American Ambulance Service in which he served until August, when he entered the Aviation Service. In December he was commissioned a first lieutenant and was assigned to patrol duty over Paris.

The sterling qualities of the boy with the quiet, friendly smile, endeared him to everyone who knew him. He occupied a place in the hearts of the people of the community that few are privileged to hold. Punxsutawney paid tribute to his memory by naming the local American Legion Post, John Jacob Fisher Post No. 62, after him.

#### *The Draft Board*

William O. Smith, editor and publisher of *The Spirit*, headed the "Draft Board" in World War I, and his associates as board members were William H. Heckendorn and Dr. S. Meigs Beyer. The examining physicians were Dr. F. D. Pringle and Dr. Beyer. Some 800 were inducted into service through this board, which operated in Punxsutawney for the southern half of Jefferson County. Miss Sara Allsip was the board clerk.

The official spelling of this community's name is "Punxsutawney," but so long has the "w" rather than the "u" in "tawney" been used that the official spelling is now entirely unofficial.

## WORLD WAR II

The second World War seemed to be a much more serious business than the first; the flag-waving, parading, demonstrations, and enthusiasm of the first Great War were almost totally lacking in the second. We were disillusioned by the failure of World War I to establish a lasting peace; also, the sudden attack on Pearl Harbor threw us into the conflict with little preparation. Because of the urgent necessity for prompt action and wholehearted support in all issues, we assumed a business-like attitude and a determination to bring to a close as soon as possible this unpleasant chapter of our history.

Headline news of various events leading up to the participation of the United States in World War II was reported by *The Spirit*. On March 17, 1941, we read, "Sabotage Suspected in Derailing of P.R.R. Train"; later headlines in our newspaper informed us that various ships, including the destroyer "*Ruben James*," had been sunk. December 8, 1941, the day after Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the front page blazed "U. S. Declares War on Japs"; then, on December 9, 1941, the United States formally declared war against Germany.

Punxsutawney immediately responded. Several residents already in the armed forces were taking part in the battles of the South Pacific. On the home front, immediate action was being taken. The local "five-and-tens" displayed their patriotism by disposing of all merchandise that had been made in Japan. The citizens of Punxsutawney first felt the sudden impact of the situation in the rationing of tires. There was immediate need for conservation of rubber, which was indispensable to our fighting men. In order to make our supply of this vital material go as far as possible, a tire rationing board was appointed to issue certificates for the purchase of automobile tires. The board members were Nelson H. Boyd, Principal of P.H.S.; James A. Yuengert, postmaster of Reynoldsville, and Thomas D. Stauffer, an attorney of Brookville.

To combat the danger of air raids, on December 27, 1941, Chief Henry Hilton named 62 air raid wardens, who were to see that blackout and air raid regulations were observed. The community was divided with the six wards as districts and the precincts (two in each ward) as sub-districts. In each ward were appointed two senior wardens and three assistants, with the exception of the first ward and the second precinct of the second ward, in which there were four assistants.

A rationing board was appointed for the purpose of apportioning scarce materials to the people of the community and neighboring townships. Through this board were issued ration books with coupons, in equitable amounts, for gasoline, shoes, and food. People spoke in hushed tones of "worth his weight in sugar" rather than the baser commodity, gold; coffee and bananas were other particularly desirable and unobtainable foodstuffs. Gasoline coupons (A, B, C and T coupons) were doled out according to the absolute necessity of the car owner; pleasure driving ceased. The rationing board, included D. R. Thomas, chairman; N. H. Boyd, William B. Means, R. W. Howell and S. G. Friant, all of Punxsutawney; Bunny Askey and M. R. McIntyre, of Reynoldsville. Later the War Price and Rationing Board was estab-



lished and a price panel was added to the board. This included Jay H. Freas, chairman; W. E. Quinlisk, Fred Raffetto, J. A. Veitch, Al Trunzo, W. C. Wolfe, all of Punxsutawney; J. A. Yuengert, D. S. Vandivort, of Reynoldsville, and Frank Frederick, of Punxsutawney R. D. 2. Offices were located in Punxsutawney and took care of Bell, Henderson, McCalmont, Winslow, Young, Perry Townships, and the boroughs of Big Run, Reynoldsville, Sykesville and Punxsutawney.

On February 26, 1942, the new car allotment was set at 62 cars to the county. To get a new auto, one had to prove that his old one was totally unable to meet the duties it had to perform, also that a car was absolutely essential to his business.

The August 29, 1942, issue of *The Spirit* announced that Miss Miriam W. Cokely, who began her training at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., was the first woman of Punxsutawney to join the W.A.V.E.S.

Programs for Selectees: Early in the war, programs were held upon departure of selectees. At first, services were conducted each time a group left but were later discontinued because of the emotional strain upon all concerned. The following are examples of these programs:

Thirty selectees left for the army on March 5, 1942. After appropriate and impressive exercises in the P.H.S. auditorium, the boys left by special bus for Altoona, from which place they were to proceed by train to New Cumberland. Ten men designated for the U. S. Navy and six for the U. S. Marines departed a few minutes later for Pittsburgh, from where they were to go to their respective stations. William Guthrie, manager of Brown's Boot Shop and a veteran of World War I, was the speaker at the services in the auditorium. He recalled his departure in a similar contingent 25 years before. Charles Hoy, president of the Area Service Club, pointed out that it was the duty of those at home to maintain the "American way of life" and to see that it was still functioning when the war was finally won. Reverend Reese, of the Evan. United Brethren Church, offered the invocation. The High School Band played "America" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

On May 28, 1942, selectees reported to headquarters at 7 o'clock a. m. under the leadership of Robert M. Eaton with Lewis M. Blose, Joseph B. Gagliardi and E. B. Snedden as assistants. The men were photographed at the post office and marched to Barclay Square behind the band. Walter Morris presided over the ceremony. About 1500 people comprised the audience. H. T. Jack, a World War I veteran, spoke briefly to the selectees and their relatives. After a prayer was offered by Reverend M. N. George, of the Reformed Church, gifts of service kits were furnished to the men by the Selective Service Club of Area 2, and were presented by the chairman, Charles Hoy.

On April 14, 1944, the practice black-out, one of the many held during the war, was a success. The town was dark from 10:00 to 10:30 p. m.

#### Anecdotes from *The Spirit* files:

A Punxsutawney writes home to his mother from France, saying, "I wish I had more than one life to give for my country—I'd feel so much safer with a couple to spare."

Pvt. Guy Musser, who is stationed on the West Coast, called his mother from Hollywood, where he is enjoying a brief stay. He said that he was stopping

at the Roosevelt Hotel and that he had told the clerk he didn't believe his mother would like that. The clerk reassuringly answered, "Don't worry, son, this one was named for Teddy."

A soldier home on furlough remarks that he is glad to get back where the feminine element is shy and demure—where it is necessary to whistle at least twice.

A Punxsutawney soldier writes home he spent four days in Italy's capital. He sums up the grandeur that was Rome in one glowing, all-inclusive phrase, "A modern city with the first blondes I've seen in Italy."

Carmen Parise, formerly employed in the Crissman greenhouses here and now serving in the Navy, writes from San Luis Obispo that he recently enjoyed a dance with Shirley Temple.

Christmas, 1942, a paragraph in *The Spirit* mentions that cards are coming through from men in the service. Captain Carl Korsmo sends an attractive one from the European theater of war, and Captain Ed Weidenhamer, one from the Pacific theater. Pfc. Blair Smith, who is in the South Pacific, addressed his card to the "Local Draft Board No. 2." The verse expresses a very appropriate Christmas wish, to which Pfc. Smith has appended, "Wish you were here."

Lieutenant Samuel Infantino of this city, who is overseas as a bombardier, writes M. R. Tibby that he put Punxsutawney on the map "somewhere in Germany" on his first mission over enemy territory. He inscribed his first bomb with the name and compliments of his home town.

Selective Service Board: The personnel of the Selective Service Board for Area 2, Jefferson County, with headquarters in The Spirit building, Punxsutawney, changed only in minor details. P. L. Smith, chairman, publisher and editor of *The Spirit*, was the son of W. O. Smith, who had been chairman of the board in World War I. Other members of the board were Irvin C. North, of near Punxsutawney, and George L. Geisler, of Reynoldsville. The examining physician was Dr. Louis R. McCauley, who had the assistance of the doctors and dentists of the area who were not in service. Attorney Walter E. Morris was the government appeal agent and represented the board in legal matters, and Attorney George H. Kurtz, the young men who had registered under the selective service law. Other attorneys gave valuable assistance. William F. Smith, H. T. Jack, H. A. Brown, David Carrick, and many others gave signal service to the board and the community. The efficient chief clerk was Miss Helen Roth, now Mrs. William Gilliland, and she had the able assistance of Miss Virginia Adams and Miss Irene Zuby.

War Drives and Celebrations: During the war the schools and practically all of the local business establishments sold war savings stamps. The Jefferson and Alpine theatres conducted bond-selling campaigns during which short programs on the war effort were presented; then stamps and bonds were sold throughout the audience. *The Spirit* carrier boys also did excellent work in the sale of stamps. By July 24, 1942, the boys had sold 202,848 stamps; they continued to add to that figure.

Paper, Scrap, Record and Book Drives: On April 14, 1942, 13 tons of scrap were collected by the Le-



gion Post with John Galbraith as head of the drive.

On September 30 of the same year, between 80 and 100 tons of scrap, in addition to the old cannon in the park, were collected in Punxsutawney.

In August of 1942 an old phonograph record drive was sponsored by the American Legion, with Francis Jarbeck and Tom Marvin as leaders.

Throughout the war many paper drives were conducted. During 1942 and 1943, Boy Scout Troop No. 48 conducted three paper drives and obtained approximately 88 tons of waste paper. On May 10, 1944, school boys obtained a carload and a half of waste paper, and on June 27 of the same year, Boy Scout Troops 44, 45, 47 and 48 gathered 18 tons.

On January 2, 1942, a book collection began under the supervision of Miss Mildred Harlan and James T. Downie. The books received went to servicemen. The drive ended on February 25, with nearly two thousand books.

A Victory Book Drive for servicemen, was opened January 7, 1943. Lloyd E. Morgan, secretary of the Central Y.M.C.A., was general chairman. Other members of the committee were Miss Mildred Harlan, librarian of the Punxsutawney Free Library, and Mrs. Fannie Adams, secretary of the local chapter of the Red Cross. Drivers of milk trucks agreed to pick up books and deliver them to the library. By January 16, a thousand books, 100 of which were donated by P.H.S. students, had been collected.

**Red Cross Drives:** One of the numerous wartime Red Cross drives began January 16, 1942, with a quota of \$8,500. The drive ended on January 31, with over \$11,000. Another of these drives closed April 15, 1943, with a total of \$12,710 subscribed. The organization also turned out knitted goods (such as sweaters, socks, caps, mittens), hospital dressing gowns, bed shirts, dresses for women and children, and surgical dressings.

On April 19, 1944, Punxsutawney topped its quota of \$10,200 by \$1,474.04. The campaign chairman was William H. Hampton; vice chairman, Franklin Oelschlager.

**U.S.O. Drives:** On January 17, 1942, a U.S.O. drive began. The 75 workers started immediately to collect for the city's quota of \$1500 and the county's quota of \$18,000. The chairman was W. F. Smith, with Lloyd Morgan and Harry Brickell as assistants.

**War Loan Drives and Celebrations:** The War Loan Drives of the second World War, in contrast to those of World War I, were conducted with great dignity. Not so much flag-waving was evident in either the build-ups or in the celebrations ending each drive; necessity and urgency were stressed. The following examples are representative of these drives and celebrations:

Jefferson County's quota for the Third War Loan was \$2,088,300. The bond drive began on September 9, 1943. General chairman for the drive was Horace A. Brown; general chairman of the financial institutions, M. R. Tibby; industrial chairman, James Hogan. On the first day, bond sales totaled approximately \$1,000. A KDKA bond rally was held on September 18. Sales for the rally amounted to \$142,000.

Jefferson County's quota for the Fourth War Loan was \$1,800,800; on the first day, \$44,716 was reported. County chairman for the drive was Horace A. Brown;

city chairman, Frank Oelschlager; area chairman, Frances Maloney.

The Fifth War Loan drive was launched in Jefferson County on June 12, 1944. This campaign was under the direction of Horace A. Brown and was started by house-to-house workers. The county's goal was \$1,905,000; Punxsutawney's sales amounted to \$170,146.70.

Punxsutawney's bond selling efforts in the Sixth War Loan culminated on Saturday, July 3, 1945, with a KDKA Bondwagon Show at Harmon Field. Selling of bonds was encouraged by 25 radio performers from the Pittsburgh station. Among the entertainers were: The Kinders Sisters, Jeannie Baxter, Slim Bryant and His Georgia Wildcats, Bernie Armstrong, Johnny Kirby, Florence Berg, Jack Taylor and Johnny Boyer. The Bondwagon operated before a crowd of 5,000. The show boosted sales in Punxsutawney by \$57,601.75. Raymond Dereume was chairman of the Punxsutawney area in the Sixth War Loan drive.

#### Celebrations:

**Victory Pledge Parade:** Wednesday, April 15, 1942, more than 2,000 public and parochial school students participated in a parade. The West End children marched from the Winslow Street school to Chestnut Street, where they were joined by children of the parochial school. Students of Jenks Hill and Jefferson Street schools joined the others at Mitchell Avenue and all continued to Barclay Square. The service was opened with "America," played by the High School Band. Following the invocation by Reverend Roy Decker of the Methodist Church, Horace A. Brown, master of ceremonies, welcomed all present. W. F. Smith and Paul Barclay each gave a talk on the war effort. After the band played the national anthem, the closing prayer was delivered by Father F. J. Turner.

**Defense Show:** On May 22, 1942, a Defense Show was presented to a crowd of 1,000 people. The show was arranged by the County Civilian Defense Council and Lloyd Morgan. The main attraction was Fred Robinson, magician and ventriloquist. Mrs. Lester's Tiny Tots also participated in the show. Further entertainment was provided by Mr. Morgan and the "Y" circus troupe.

#### Death of President Roosevelt

On April 13, 1945, we were informed of the sudden death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The heavy black headline in *The Spirit* read, "The World Is In Mourning." Punxsutawney's Burgess George W. Hughes issued a proclamation asking that all business places close Saturday afternoon during the funeral services at the White House. Also included in the proclamation were requests that flags be flown at half-mast for 30 days, that there be no social activities over the week-end, and that prayers be said for the late President and for President Truman. At 11 o'clock there were exercises in the grade school and junior high school rooms and a memorial service in the P.H.S. auditorium. SS. Cosmas and Damian schools also conducted memorial services. After these programs, all students were dismissed for the day.

#### V. E. Day

At 9:35 a. m. on May 7, 1945, *The Spirit* staff received word of the German surrender from Associated Press. Bulletins were posted, and Burgess George



Hughes and the schools notified. After a brief ceremony, the schools closed. At 10:30 a. m., when *The Spirit* "extra" was ready to go to press, it was discovered that the word was not official. Then followed a frantic search to find out whether or not we were celebrating the long-awaited V. E. Day. It was found that A.P. had received the surrender news from a Paris news flash; however, the word had not been confirmed by other international press services, President Truman, Churchill, or Stalin. When at last Messrs. Truman and Churchill made the news official, Premier Stalin did not, and *The Spirit* was still waiting. Pittsburgh, New York, London, and Punxsutawney blew horns, rang bells, and rejoiced; finally at 12:50, three hours later, *The Spirit* announced "Victory in Europe."

Observance of V. E. Day in P.H.S.: In a mood of solemn thanksgiving, P.H.S. students observed V. E. Day. From a stage lined with allied flags held by junior high school students, a fitting program was presented in the F. S. Jackson auditorium. After the group sang "The Star Spangled Banner," Mr. Downie discussed the full significance of V. E. Day.

Mr. Boyd read from the 25th chapter of Isaiah; Rev. Miller then gave a prayer. After the devotions, Miss Esther Jane Davis led the assembly in singing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and songs of various branches of the service.

James Crummy summarized the progress of the war in Europe. A review of America's part in the European war was given by Gerald Carrier. L. C. Trimble gave a talk in which he spoke of various emotions that he felt on the occasion.

#### V. J. Day

On August 15, 1945, Punxsutawney came forth with a conglomeration of noise and revelry never before equalled in her history. The celebration was touched off by a simple phrase in three-inch type—"Japan Surrenders." *The Spirit* staff, which had been on the job day and night for three days, took a much needed vacation. Stores were closed on Wednesday and Thursday, and the liquor store was jammed with people seeking a tonic for a toast-and-aspirin celebration. Every object capable of producing noise was employed. Everything on wheels was overflowing with enthusiastic, happy citizens. At 3:00 a. m., a heavy downpour sent everyone home physically drenched but spiritually undampened. The merry-

making resulted in only two broken windows and no serious accidents.

Sunday, August 19, was declared World Day of Prayer; Punxsutawney attended church services and gave thanks that the war was at last ended.

The first casualty of the Punxsutawney area was Stanley Paul Nogacek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nogacek. The youth was killed in action in the Philippine Islands on January 18, 1942.

After the close of the war, there came the sad but necessary task of burying the war dead. Many of our boys whose bodies were returned from overseas were permanently laid to rest with military rites. In a military service, the color guards (flag-bearers and two comrades), precede the flag-draped coffin and stand at attention. The chaplain of the appropriate branch of service or veterans' past offers prayer. A firing squad comprising from four to eight men fires a volley high into the air as the casket is lowered into the grave. The proper number of men for a military funeral is eleven, but the duties can be performed by five in an emergency. Local soldiers who gave their lives are now being honored with rites such as these.

In the spring of 1949 funeral services were held for two boys of nearby Coolspring whose lives closely paralleled each other. The two boyhood friends, Delbert W. Brocius and Fred C. Clontz, entered the armed service together on September 12, 1944; they trained together at Fort George Meade, Md., and at Fort McClelland, Ala. They came together on their first and only furloughs and in January of 1945 both went overseas. Brocius was killed in action on February 12, 1945, and Clontz was killed on March 9, 1945, 25 days later. The bodies were brought home on the same transport, made their final journey to their respective homes on the same train, and were taken to the same funeral parlor. Both boys were but 18 years of age when they met their untimely deaths; they were casualties less than six months after they had taken the oath that made them soldiers.

In this sketch of World War II no attempt has been made to paint in the background of the war; the home front effort and our community's actual part in the war have been emphasized.



Punxsutawney Municipal Airfield



## CHAPTER IX

# OLD LANDMARKS

Compiled by PAUL FEICHT, JR.

### INTRODUCTION

While none of the citizens of Punxsutawney at the time of its incorporation are living today at the Centennial celebration of the community, many mementos of these pioneers can be found not only in traditions, in laws, and in history books; but in those places of which they were most proud—their homes. In this chapter are contained the histories of many of the community's oldest buildings; however a few have been omitted unintentionally because of lack of information.

#### 1036 WEST MAHONING STREET

The first white man to come to this locality was Jacob Hoover, who built a cabin in 1814 on the location that is now 1036 West Mahoning Street. Nearly all of the original cabin remains.

Later J. V. Gillespie became the owner of the cabin and built the front addition. It was a copy of a Cape Cod cottage. A brick spring house and spring were removed to make room for the present service station. The present house is the same with some change in the small porch.

In 1822, the first Methodist Church in the county was organized in this house, where a few people gathered for prayer.

The present owner of the house is Mrs. A. C. Allison.

#### JENKS HOMESTEAD

As nearly as can be determined at this time, the Jenks Homestead was built about 1822 by Dr. John W. Jenks.

On the death of Dr. Jenks in 1850, Phineas W. inherited his father's estate. The homestead, except for a few years, has been in the Jenks family for 127



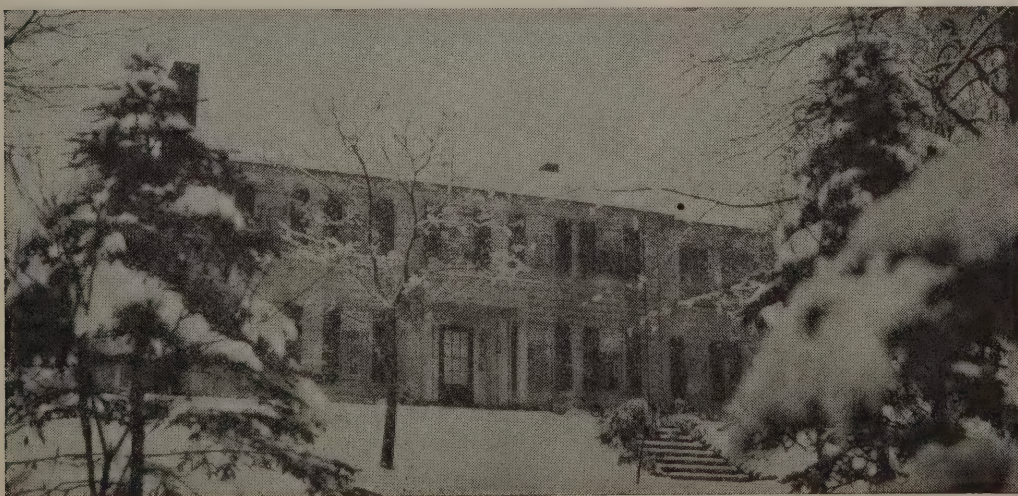
Punxsutawney's First Home

years. John W., Richard E. and Dorothy G. Jenks are the present owners.

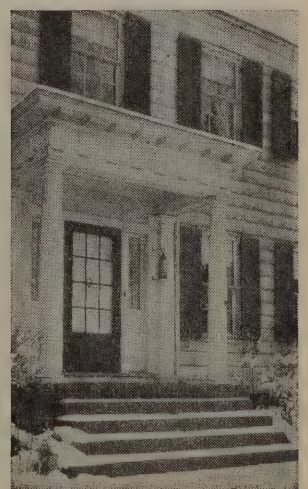
A large L-shaped porch was removed from the front and east side of the house. A low stone wall, built along the sides of the property which fronts on Jenks and Ridge Avenues, contains stones brought from many different sections of the United States; and a stone mason who worked on the Vatican in Rome helped to build the wall.

Though the interior of the house was modernized, remodeled and redecorated, the colonial aspect and great age of the house are still everywhere in evidence. The living room, dining room, and downstairs hall still have their original cherry floors. The door of the present living room is the original hand-hewn one. The 127-year-old thin-spindled, cherry stair railing is still in use, none of it having to be replaced. All of the woodwork in the master bedroom of the house is the original.

The homestead's old two-story barn still stands with its stalls for the horses, and a room on the second floor where the hostler lived in the "horse and buggy" days when the Jenks homestead was a youngster and Punxsutawney was new.



The Jenks Homestead







808 East Mahoning Street

### 808 EAST MAHONING STREET

The Dinsmore home, located at 808 East Mahoning Street, was built about 1825 by Mathias Clawson, who at one time owned all the land east of the Mahoning Creek and north of Mahoning Street. This was the first home to be built east of the Mahoning Creek. Ben Clawson became the next owner of the house and in 1875 sold it to R. Wiltse Dinsmore, who added the large front porch. In 1945 the house was purchased by Arthur Dinsmore, who is the present townner.

One of its oldest features is a large fireplace the approximate width, height and depth of which are 5, 4, and 3 feet, respectively. In the fire place was a crane on which were hung kettles used for cooking. Mrs. Jennie Dinsmore, now deceased, used this fire-place and crane for cooking for about 70 years.

One of the first private schools held in this district was conducted in the east room of the Dinsmore home. Dr. King taught languages to many students who could not go elsewhere to school. This school was, in a way, a small high school.



Rose Cottage

### ROSE COTTAGE

Rose Cottage, now known as the Betts home, was built about 1835 by Charles C. Gaskill, who bought the land from Charles R. Barclay. The house was surrounded by roses and other flowers and a white paling fence. In 1868 Mr. Gaskill sold the house to William Davis, who sold it to Theodore Pantall and

John North in 1876. A. C. White purchased it in 1877, and sold it to Reuben Young in 1887. The house is still a part of the Young estate. It was recently moved to Maple Avenue because of the flood control project.



810 West Mahoning Street

### 810 WEST MAHONING STREET

The home of George Hazlett was built about 1850, by W. E. Gillespie and was located on the left side of West Mahoning Street, directly across from its present location, 810 West Mahoning Street.

In 1859, it was bought by James B. Conser, who moved it to its present site. In later years S. T. North and Irvin Simpson became owners of the house. Finally, the home was purchased by its present owner, Mr. Hazlett.



103 East Union Street

### 103 EAST UNION STREET

The house at 103 East Union Street was built about 100 years ago by William Campbell. In 1852, Adam Miller bought the house, which was later inherited by Mrs. Margaret Bendes. It was then purchased by Mrs. Pauline Smith who, in 1932, sold it to its present owner, Howard T. Sprinkle.

### 504 WEST MAHONING STREET

The Minish home, which is located at 504 West Mahoning Street, was built in the early 1850's by Miller Winslow.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Minish bought the property in 1857. Later in 1912, the home was purchased by Mrs. LaRue Staples, the present owner.





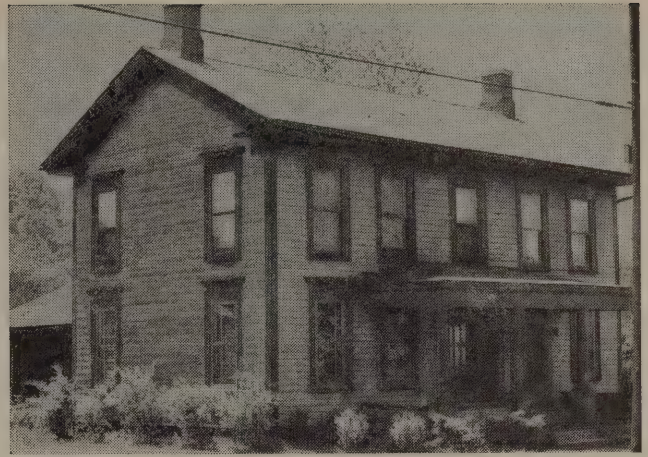
224 East Mahoning Street

#### 224 EAST MAHONING STREET

The building located at 224 East Mahoning Street was built in the late 1850's by William Campbell. Later it was bought by Mrs. Margaret Little, who established a millinery shop at this location. In 1885 the building and shop were sold to Mrs. Stumph. The next owner was Mrs. Burkett, who sold it to Miss Cora Campbell and Miss Margaret Campbell Loeb about 1915. Later the building was sold to Charles St. Clair; then to John Watson, who for some time operated a grocery store there. Alex Stroplos, the next owner, sold the building in 1947 to Jack Bianco, who is the present owner. Spinelli's barbershop now (1949) occupies the downstairs rooms of the building.



504 West Mahoning Street



809 West Mahoning Street

#### 809 WEST MAHONING STREET

The home located at 809 West Mahoning Street was built about 1859 by W. E. Gillespie. The first Roman Catholic Mass in Punxsutawney was held in this house in 1869 and was attended by Mr. Gillespie, his brother, J. U. Gillespie, and John Berger. In later years this home was owned by the Graff family, and finally in 1938 the County National Bank sold it to its present owner, John Lentz.



515 Graffius Avenue

#### 515 GRAFFIUS AVENUE

In 1861 John M. Graffius built the home, 515 Graffius Avenue, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Newton. The house consists of six rooms and a bath. The brick building adjoining it was once a springhouse. When Mrs. John M. Graffius died in 1930, the estate was divided and Frank Harl became the owner of the home through his mother's share. He in turn sold the home to the present owners.



240 West Mahoning Street





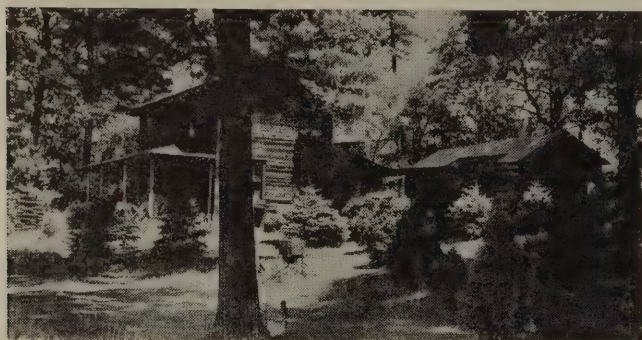
400 West Mahoning Street

#### 400 WEST MAHONING STREET

The erection of the home of Mrs. Nancy Robinson, located at 400 West Mahoning Street, was begun in 1862 by her father, James E. Mitchell. The architect, who constructed porticos for the home, was O. P. Frampton. About 30 years ago Edwin W. Robinson bought and remodeled the house.

#### 240 WEST MAHONING STREET

The frame building at 240 West Mahoning Street was erected in 1862 by Isaac Cobert, who operated it as a Temperance Hotel. In 1882 it was managed as a drug store under the ownership of J. M. Beyer. Earl H. Brennan purchased the building in 1922, and established a barber shop which is still in operation.



802 Woodland Avenue

#### 802 WOODLAND AVENUE

An 85-year-old home, the residence of Miss Olive Wood, located at the top of Woodland Avenue, in the East End, has looked down on Punxsutawney's growth since the city was an "infant."

One of the oldest residences in the area that is still in use, the Wood home was constructed 15 years after Punxsutawney's birth as a municipality in 1849.

It occupies a beauty spot that gives it a commanding view of much of the city.

The home was built on a 100 acre tract (owned by Charles G. Gaskill) by Ephraim Bair, father of the late John B. Bair, who operated a store here.

At the time it was constructed the house was one of three in the East End section of the city. The second residence was located on what is now the Robert Morris property in the Bubeck Addition, and the third was the Dinsmore property on East Mahoning Street.

The residence was built for Dr. Charles Wood and his family, but Dr. Wood died before the family moved into it. The home then reverted to the late Ward Wood.

The front porch was added some years later and the back summer kitchen, which is constructed of logs and mortar, was built on about 40 years ago.

William Pratt, the nation's top rhymster, who is a native of Punxsutawney, wrote this poem about the Wood home some years ago:

A little house unpainted through the years,  
Surrounded by a group of ancient pines;  
So peaceful that the caller overhears  
The whisper of the morning glory vines.  
When springtimes brings her beauty to the hill,  
And dots the green with gaily colored blooms,  
This homestead tempts the nesting whippoorwill,  
Whose trilling echoes through the little rooms.  
At night when Punx'y's street lamps are aglow,  
And headlights chart the movement of the cars,  
From darkened heights it views the scene below  
And poses like a house above the stars.  
When once we know the place it's understood  
Why home is in the heart of Olive Wood.

—From *Spirit*, August 11, 1948.



222 South Main Street

#### 222 SOUTH MAIN STREET

The Delbert Palmer home, which is located at 222 South Main Street, was begun in 1864 during the Civil War. Henry Hutmire started the construction as a four room cabin. The timbers for the house were hand hewn from knotless white pine. Today the boards in this house are as good as new.

#### 110 STATION STREET

The Bubeck home, located at 110 Station Street, was built about 1865 by John Jacob Bubeck, who was born in Germany in 1827. He emigrated to America in 1845, at the age of 18. Philadelphia was his first dwelling place, and there he remained for 16 years as a stone mason. Later, he came to Punxsutawney, where he resided for 54 years. After his death in



1911, the house was bequeathed to Laura M. Doncaster, his niece.

In 1932 Robert M. Morris bought the house and remodeled it the following year. Mr. Morris is the present owner.



105 Gaskill Avenue

### 105 GASKILL AVENUE

The house at 105 Gaskill Avenue was built in 1866 by Mrs. O. H. Nordstrom. In 1918 Mrs. Jessie McQuown became the owner. The house has stayed in the family since it was built.



1000 East Mahoning Street

### 1000 EAST MAHONING STREET

The Torrence home at 1000 East Mahoning Street, one of the most ornate of the early homes in this city. It was built by the late Misses Elizabeth and Ella Torrence.

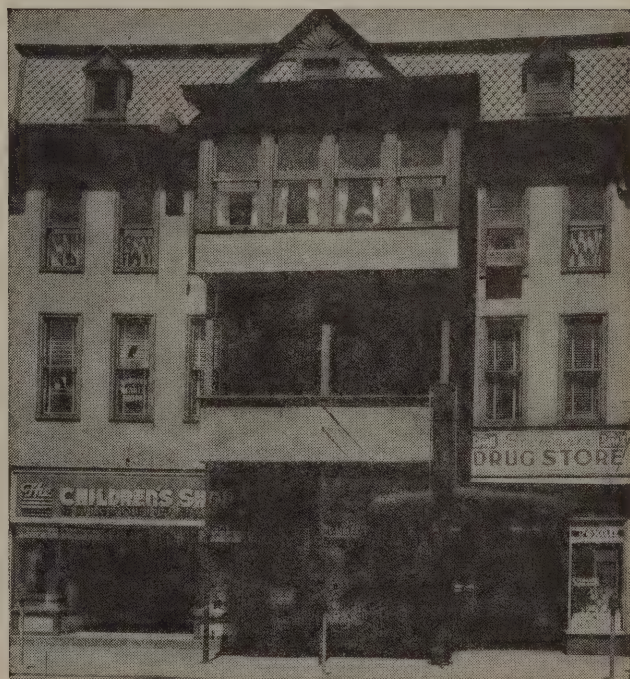


100 South Penn Street

### 100 SOUTH PENN STREET

Between 1840 and 1850, Dr. Jenks built his first log cabin on the site where the Park Apartments now stand, 100 South Penn Street. Before 1879, James St. Clair constructed a two story tavern on this property, which about 1881 he sold to Mr. North, who operated there the North Hotel. Before the year 1885, Louis Enterline purchased the building and changed its name to City Hotel. After 1885, it was owned by John Barr and Barry Kromer. Patrick McKelvey purchased the hotel in 1900 and added the third floor. Since 1905 the building has been owned successively by Mr. Kessler, Mr. Googe, and its present owner, Mrs. Schneider. The name Park Apartments was adopted during prohibition.

Home-made woolen cloth, tow, linen, and linsey-woolsey provided the dress material for pioneer women of Punxsutawney. Girls walked to church in their barefeet carrying shoes which they put on when they neared the church. Woman of refinement wore day-caps and night-caps. Linen and tow cloth were made from flax.



128 East Mahoning Street

### 128 WEST MAHONING STREET

It is not known when or by whom this building at 128 West Mahoning Street was built. Between 1874 and 1878 it was bought by James St. Clair from James Dean and James St. Clair. In 1878 Mr. St. Clair sold the structure to R. M. St. Clair. In 1881 Margaret and Dr. W. F. Beyer became the owners. Elmer Shaffer purchased the house in 1892 and converted it into the Whitney Hotel, which was closed and sold in 1916. It was then bought and converted into two storerooms with offices upstairs. Mrs. Geraldine Bley and Mrs. Anna Clark Benson are the present owners.





Corner South Penn and Union Streets

Precise information is not available on this home constructed by Captain John J. Bell, probably in the very early 1860's. It is located at the corner of Union and Penn Streets and has been altered little through the years.



Sheriff Frederick Crissman located in what was then Clayville (now West End, Punxsutawney) about 1850 and shortly thereafter built this home on what is now West Mahoning Street. The picture is a reproduction of one appearing in Caldwell's Atlas.

## TYPES OF ARCHITECTURE IN PUNXSUTAWNEY

Architecture is shelter protecting man's physical interests and expressing his emotional urges. It is influenced by the fundamental needs of man and by the fundamental characteristics of nature. In this discussion the chief interest is the effect of these influences upon the architecture of Punxsutawney.

The basic needs of man are physical, emotional, and intellectual. Shelter, which is a physical requirement, is represented by homes and by all buildings. The emotional reactions have to do with instincts stirred by the forces of religion and art. These instincts have resulted in the erection of numerous kinds and places of worship. The intellectual interests, which are

connected with education, science, and government, are the *raison d'être* for utilitarian buildings among which are schools.

The characteristics of nature which affect architecture are climate, topography, and natural resources. These have a direct influence upon the architecture of Punxsutawney. This small town is situated among the hills of Western Pennsylvania where the winters are long and cold, and the summers, short and hot. Most of the buildings of the town have a feeling of strength and solidity, sufficient to withstand the rigors of winter and the heat of summer. The rather steep roofs shed rain and snow, and the porches serve as a protection for the entrances in winter and a cool retreat in summer. The topography of this region is reflected in some buildings which follow the slope of the ground and seem to grow from the site. The hills have furnished eminences for houses which seem to crown them. The level terrain of the valley, along which runs Mahoning Street, furnishes a natural setting for buildings with classical tendencies.

The huge oak, chestnut, beach and pine forests found here have furnished wood, the dominant building material since the rafting of logs down Mahoning Creek to Pittsburgh until the present. As noted at the end of Mr. Nairn's article on mining, "this area contains some of the best fire-clay known." This clay (which in earlier years furnished basic material for local brick yards) and native sandstone are the other building materials used extensively.

Because it is the result of these influences and because it is quite permanent and cumulative, architecture reflects the social structure and the economic conditions of the period in which it is developed. The interests of the people dictate the type and appearance of its buildings. Punxsutawney grew rapidly from 1890 to 1920. During this time the industries were developed, and they brought many people and economic success to the community. It was then that a great number of our business structures and homes were erected. The buildings reflect the period and tastes of the people. *By Sara Bowers*

### 814 EAST MAHONING STREET

The Sanitarium, located at 814 East Mahoning Street, was built in 1904. It is a yellow brick structure of colonial style. The Greek Corinthian pillars and deep cornices show the Renaissance influence. The pillars and porches were used for balance in the symmetrically designed structure. (Picture, page 151.)

### FRANK S. JACKSON SCHOOL

The Frank S. Jackson School Building, one of the most modern functional buildings in Punxsutawney, was erected in 1938 at 210 North Jefferson Street. A fireproof structure of yellow brick, the building is characterized by horizontal lines on the long front broken only by great translucent glass brick windows. This plain undecorated front is typical of modern buildings. (Picture, page 143.)

### THE WEBER SCHOOL

The Weber School Building, but in 1915 at 210 North Jefferson Street, is a red brick structure. This building is an example of pure Renaissance architecture. The characteristics are the flat roof, symmetrical balance, elaborately carved moulding, and the con-



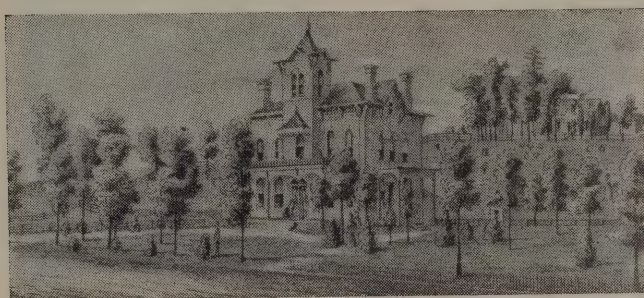
trast of round arches on the first floor with those on the second. Many windows serve functional purposes. (Picture, page 145.)

### THE SPIRIT BUILDING

The Spirit Building at 111 North Findley Street, is known as our "skyscraper." This large building, with its many windows, was built in 1909. It is constructed of yellow brick in a very plain design. (Picture, page 120.)

### THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

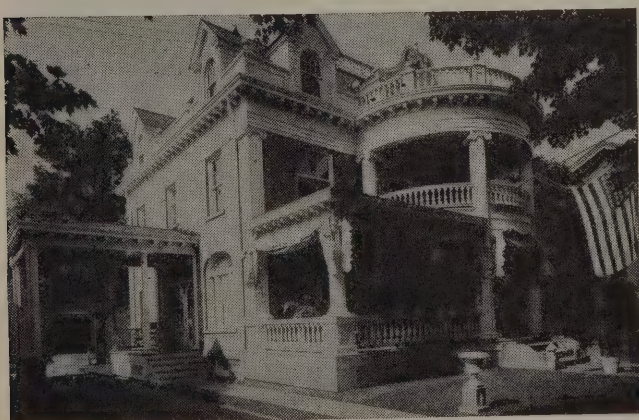
The United States Post Office, located at 201 North Findley Street, was erected in 1913. This building is a true example of the American Renaissance. The characteristics of the Renaissance are shown in the tall, graceful Greek Ionic pillars and in the cornice. The flat roof, large windows, and red brick styling are the American traits found in this building. (Picture, page 51.)



400 Pine Street

### 200 PINE STREETS

This fine old house at 200 Pine Street, built in 1868 of red brick, is a true example of Victorian Gothic architecture. The upward sweep, the porch, the canopy, and the tower in the center of the structure make it a beautiful illustration of Victorian style. The arches and the beautifully carved cornices show the Gothic influence.



402 West Mahoning Street

### 402 WEST MAHONING STREET

The home of Dr. Seitz, located at 402 West Mahoning Street, was built about the turn of the century. The house is a yellow brick structure of colonial style with classical detail. It has a large porch and high arched windows; the dormer windows on the roof are colonial features. The front of the house is adorned with tall, graceful Ionic columns.



401 West Mahoning Street

### 401 WEST MAHONING STREET

The late Victorian style home with some Renaissance architecture, located on the corner of Morrison Avenue and West Mahoning Street, was built in 1903 by E. C. McKibben, secretary of Punxsutawney Iron Works. T. E. Bennis, the present owner, bought the home in 1918. The house was designed by Stanford White, a famous American architect, who designed such buildings as Madison Square Presbyterian Church, New York; Metropolitan Club, New York; Battle Monument of U. S. Military Academy, West Point. In the design of the home, great detail is found in the dormers, in the odd shaped porch, the low pointed roof, elaborately carved decorations on the columns, and highly decorated walls.



611 West Mahoning Street

### 611 WEST MAHONING STREET

Built in strict Southern colonial style, this house has large columns supporting its two full length porches. Some distinctive characteristics of this home are the large windows, the shutters, the cornices, and the porches. This frame structure is very large.

### SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN CHURCH

Saints Cosmas and Damian Church, which is located at 616 West Mahoning Street, was built in 1941. It is a large stone structure of simple Gothic architecture. The stained glass windows symbolize Catholic religion. (Picture, page 136.)





900 East Mahoning Street

### ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The English Lutheran Church on 115 Pine Street was built in 1903. It is a red brick structure, an example of English Gothic architecture.

It uses an upward sweep formed by the two towers, one shorter than the other, and the pointed arches over the windows and doors which are characteristic of this type of architecture. (Picture, page 129.)

### STS. PETER AND PAUL'S GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Greek Catholic Church at 714 Second Avenue was built in 1904. It is a red brick structure with two large steeples. It is of Romanesque architecture and features the rounded arch. (Picture, page 137.)

### 900 EAST MAHONING STREET

The home located at 900 East Mahoning Street is built so as to resemble a Spanish mission. The low style, the tower, and the rounded arches are representative of this type of architecture. In addition, a typically Spanish patio is located at the back of the house. The tones of which it is built were collected from every State in the Union and from nearly every important historical shrine in the world. It was built by David Brown and is now owned by Mrs. J. Pierce Roberts.



404 Woodland Avenue

### 404 WOODLAND AVENUE

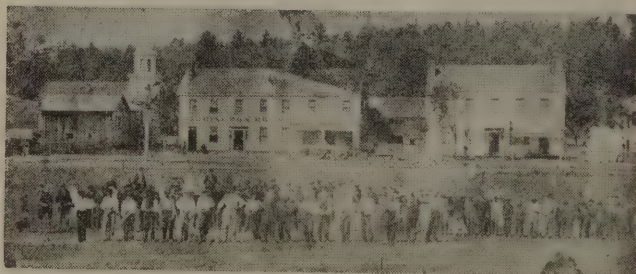
The Edward Gotwald home at 404 Woodland Avenue, was built in 1949. It is the ultra-modern type of suburban home.



517 North Main Street

### 517 NORTH MAIN STREET

The Vancheri home at 517 North Main Street, built in 1941, is an example of modern architecture. It features the outside chimney, French windows, and a colonial entrance. Also, as a trait of modern architecture, this house has an irregular shape.



The above cut of Barclay Square as it appeared in 1865 was made from a picture that was the property of the late Isaac Rosenberger. The church shown in the left of the picture was the Baptist Church on Jefferson Street.



## CHAPTER X

# A PUNXSUTAWNEY SCRAPBOOK

Compiled by KIMBALL FREASE

The first part of this chapter deals with the legends and tales that are told about the dim past of Punxsutawney. Many of these are merely floating legends such as arise about the early history of almost any town. Although these tales are in some cases unsupported by proof, they persist.

Much speculation has arisen about the origin of the name of "Punxsutawney"; and, although the mystery will never be solved, there are many romantic tales about the name.

It is commonly believed that Punxsutawney was an Indian town for centuries before the early settlers came to this continent.<sup>1</sup> Hundreds of years ago, the soft tread of an Indian's foot was the only traffic where now a wide Mahoning Street winds through the town. Indian tepees clustered around a bonfire years ago; now brick and stone residences border paved streets and avenues. The common belief, with the addition of many legends that have been handed down to us, evolves itself into the supposition that the Indians gave Punxsutawney its name.

In the eighteenth century some Moravian missionaries labored earnestly among the Indians in this territory. In the diary of Brother Ettewein, one of these missionaries, we find the first authentic reference to Punxsutawney. A page from the diary, describing his journey along Mahoning Creek, then known by the Indian name of Mohulbucteetam, or "place where canoes are abandoned," reads as follows:

"Sunday, July 19, 1772.—As yesterday, but two families kept with me: we had a quiet Sunday but enough to do drying our effects. In the evening all joined me, but we could hold no services as the ponkis were so excessively annoying that the cattle pressed toward and into our camp to escape their persecution in the smoke of the fires. This vermin is a plague to man and beast, both by day and by night. But in the swamp through which we are now passing their name is legion. Hence, the Indians call it Ponksutenink, i. e., 'the town of the ponkis.' The word is equivalent to living dust and ashes, the vermin being so small as not to be seen, and their bite being hot as sparks of fire or hot ashes. The brethren here related an Indian myth to wit: That the aforementioned Indian hermit and sorcerer, after having been for many years a terror to all Indians, had been killed by one who had burned his bones, but the ashes he blew into the swamp, and they became living things, hence the ponkis."<sup>2</sup>

According to another legend, the chief of an Indian village once lived along the Mahoning Creek near the present location of the East End bridge. The beautiful young daughter of the chief was in love with an Indian brave of the Iroquois Nation. The young Iroquois was the accepted suitor of the Princess; but, when he set out to claim her, he was killed by an enemy tribe. The Princess, whose name was Punx-

sutawney, became demented and finally died of a broken heart. The people of her tribe, grieving for her, named the village in her honor.

The name of our town is explained by still another story. A great Indian chief, named Punxsutawney, lived in this village. He was handsome and strong, mighty in war, wise in peace, and beloved by all his people. This great chief took for his squaw Mrs. Lindsey, a white woman. In honor of them, part of the village was named for Punxsutawney and another part for Mrs. Lindsey. People said afterwards that, when the borough of Lindsey and the borough of Punxsutawney were united, it was only the wedding anniversary of the great chief and his white squaw.<sup>3</sup>

Punxsutawney is said to have been named for a Shawnee Indian chief, Pukeesheno, in 1750. Others insist that the name comes from Punksatawney, which in the language of the Senecas means "great town." Again there are those who agree with the explanation that the name is taken from a word of the Iroquois, meaning "gnat town."<sup>4</sup>

Many suggestive proofs have been brought to light which have led to the belief that the valley, in which Punxsutawney is situated, was once a large lake. This theory is developed from the fact that, first, shells were discovered at the foot of the hills in the south side of town; and, second, that the footprint of a large amphibious animal was found on a rock brought from Graffius' quarry. Judging from the size of the foot print, the animal must have been between seven and eight feet long and huge of body. The animal apparently had come upon the shore and left a clay impression on the stone. After many years the impression filled up with sand and hardened, and thus the raised relief was left on the rock. The lake must have been between thirty and forty feet in depth for an animal of such size to have existed in it. The cause of the lake might have been a large beaver dam, which later broke, leaving many small streams and deep swamps in its place. This could also account for the swampy condition of the territory which the Indians and later settlers found.<sup>5</sup>

Many more traditions concerning the history of Punxsutawney before the advent of the white man have been handed down from the Indians. It is thought that in ages past, not only the Indians, but primitive man and animals now extinct, must have roamed over this part of the country.<sup>6</sup>

1. McKnight, W. J. *A Pioneer History of Jefferson County* p. 15.

2. McKnight, W. J. *Jefferson County, Pennsylvania, Her Pioneers and People* (1917) Vol. 1, p. 423.

3. McKnight, W. J. *A Pioneer History of Jefferson Co.*, (1898) p. 13.

4. Coxson, J. K. *The Early Days of Punxsutawney & Western Pa.*, p. 2.

5. Mr. Horace Miller, editor of the *Punxsutawney News*.

6. Scott, Kate M. *The History of Jefferson County*, (1888) p. 31.



In the pioneer days the boulders scattered about the hills above the Mahoning in West End brought much comment. Some of the boulders remain to-day. It was thought that the hand of man had caused the various depressions found in these large rocks; and it is recorded that one of these rocks, measuring eighteen feet in length and about half as much in width, had twenty holes apparently cut in its smooth, table-shaped, flat surface. These holes varied in size but resembled the inside of a kettle with a perfectly flat bottom. Whether the hand of man was responsible for the cutting of these "chiseled rocks" as they are termed, is not known; but, if it was, it must have been done by a race who had greater knowledge and better tools than the simple redman found here by the pioneers.<sup>1</sup>

The very early settlers found a cave near Punxsutawney, on the hill above what is now called Elk Run. This cave was of unknown depth, circular in form, and walled up with cut stone. The first explorers had descended about six feet into this cave when a rock was found, sloping downward at an angle of thirty degrees forming a hall approximately six feet in length and of unknown depth. Lighted torches revealed an opening beyond the hall, apparently of impenetrable depth. When one of the searchers threw a pebble down the opening, the echo sounded like thunder dying in the distance. The settlers never fully explored the cave, but they were told by the Indians that it was in existence when the redmen came. After the deforesting in this section, the cavern was never found again.<sup>2</sup>

Several miles from Punxsutawney is a large mound between two and three feet in height and covered with thick, short grass. This mound, according to legend, is the grave of an Indian chief. The fact that many peculiar relics have been found here, also stones which were used to grind corn, and arrow heads has led people to believe that at some time in the past a large Indian village was situated here.<sup>3</sup>

When this region was nothing but a forest, a man by the name of Kuhn lived where Punxsutawney now stands. One day, as he was clearing a wooded area near his log cabin, an Indian appeared. The savage chased Mr. Kuhn to his cabin. Mrs. Kuhn, upon seeing her husband being pursued by the Indian, made preparations to hide him. When Mr. Kuhn arrived panting, he was concealed in a bake oven under which there was no fire. The Indian tried to get into the house but failed. Finally, he attempted to come down the chimney. Hearing the strange noises on the roof, Mrs. Kuhn grabbed the pillow from underneath her baby's head and threw it on the fire. Smothered by the smoke, the Indian fell to the bottom of the chimney. Mrs. Kuhn, armed with the fire shovel, beat the choking Indian over the head until he died. He was taken out and buried on the banks of the Mahoning Creek.<sup>4</sup>

Nellie Porter, an old Irish woman who used to visit the Torrence home (921 E. Mahoning Street) told the following story. Often the Indian squaws brought their papooses with them when they came to chat with her. One day, while one of the squaws was there, her papoose got in Nellie's way; she pushed the child aside and so made the squaw

angry. Several days later, Mr. Porter rushed excitedly into the house with the news that the Indians were coming; he said that they seemed very warlike and their faces were hideously painted. Quite unalarmed, Nellie sternly bade her husband to let her manage affairs. She had some wild honey and had made corn bread that morning. When the Indians arrived, she invited them in. For a while they hesitated; but smelling the appetizing odors of the corn bread and honey, they accepted the invitation. After feasting on the simple but delicious fare, they left in good spirits.<sup>5</sup>

At a very early time, two families by the name of Walton and Sharp lived in this vicinity. One time Mrs. Sharp became very anxious, for the Indians, more painted than usual, were holding war dances. She walked up a small hill to look toward the Walton home. The sight that met her eyes was appalling. All of the Walton's buildings were in flames. Several of the family had been captured by the Indians and a few had been killed. She ran back home and began making preparations for her family to leave. Because the Sharps knew that the Indians had been spying on them, they wished to take their departure as soon as possible. The fourteen-year-old boy was sent to Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh, by horseback; and the rest of the family left by boat. Seeing them leaving, the Indians opened fire. Mr. Sharp was wounded, but he lived until his family was safely established in Fort Pitt.<sup>6</sup>

All these legends remain to taunt and provoke speculation. Was Punxsutawney inhabited by a race of men more intelligent and resourceful than the Indian? Was the Indian really the first inhabitant of this land?

No less interesting than the legends already related is the account of the Indians in this vicinity, who were called "Nun-ga-wah-gah," meaning "the great hill people." The Indians were probably Senecas, who formed an important part in the confederacy of the "Six Nations" or Iroquois. It is said the Senecas produced the greatest orators, and more of them than any other Indian nations. The most famous of these was Red Jacket, a chief, who once, in enumerating the woes of his nation, exclaimed: "We stand on a small island in the bosom of the great waters. We are encircled; we are encompassed. The evil spirit rides on the blast, and the waters are disturbed. They rise, they press upon us, and the waters once settled over us, we disappear forever. Who then lives to mourn us? None. What marks our extinction? Nothing. We are mingled with the common elements."<sup>7</sup>

So the Indians were eventually crowded out by the white man, but the legends of those early days live on.

1. Anniversary edition of the *Punxsutawney Spirit* of 1916.

2. Coxson, J. K. *The Early Days of Punsutawney and Western Pa.* p. 10.

3. *Ibid.* p. 45.

4. Interview with Mrs. Ed. Mitchell in 1923.

5. Interview with Mrs. George Torrence in 1923.

6. *Ibid.*

7. McKnight, W. J. *Jefferson Co., Pa., Her Pioneers and Her People* Vol. 1 (1917) pp. 7, 15.



The object of the second portion of this chapter, for which much material was gleaned from written memoirs and scrapbooks of inhabitants of Punxsutawney, is to bring to your mind a picture of this town as it used to be.

One of the most famous disputes in Punxsutawney's history was that between Adam Long and Jesse Armstrong. As German Long, said, "Jesse Armstrong fixed me. I put up dis house and let him in mit me. Den he went to te agent and bot te land behind my pack. I licked him like te Tivel, but he put me out."

The dispute between Long and Armstrong about their land would doubtless have proved a tragic affair, had it not been for that man of blessed memory, Jacob Hoover, who settled the quarrel by giving Adam an opportunity to take up and settle on a far superior tract of land containing about 400 acres. (Coxson, J. K., *The Early Days of Punxsutawney and Western Pennsylvania*, pp. 48-50.)

Adam Long had a story that he particularly liked to tell concerning a bear that he had killed. It follows:

Adam's dog had started the bear on the hill above the Mahoning Creek, and they followed it from crag to crag until at last just on the bank of the creek it turned and gave him battle. The bear caught the dog in its embrace. When the hunter dealt the huge beast a powerful blow, the furious animal relaxed its hold on the dog and sprang at Adam with extended jaws. Both the man and the animal realized the battle was for life or death. The hunter's gun was useless, for he had no time to aim at the bear. Springing aside, he drew his long, keen hunting knife and returned to the charge. The huge black beast was standing erect and received the thrust of the knife in his neck. As Long was about to give him another blow with his knife, the bear struck him with his powerful paw and stretched him on the ground; the knife flew from Long's hand into the creek. Had it not been for the dog at this point, poor Adam would never have lived to tell of the exploit. The dog, seeing his master at the mercy of their common enemy, sprang upon the bear. There ensued a fierce struggle. However, the bear was badly wounded, and the dog at last threw him almost into the creek. The bear gave up; and, springing into the water, he swam for the other shore with the brave dog still hanging on to his flank. By this time Long had recovered his senses; and, reloading his gun, he fired at the fleeing animal. He then plunged into the creek and encountered the bear upon the opposite shore with his hatchet. He had no trouble killing him then. Long believed that the huge beast would have weighed at least 400 pounds. (McKnight, W. J., *Jefferson Co., Pa., Her Pioneers and People* (1917 vol. 1, p. 437.

Many of the older people of Punxsutawney can tell tales of the days when the Mahoning Creek was the busy scene of rafting. The rafts, built of square hewn logs, were fastened together on the ice during the winter with hickory limbs. They were from 130 feet to 140 feet in length and 35 to 40 feet wide. In the spring the rafts, propelled by two cars—one fore and one aft—were taken down the creek to Pittsburgh. They went in fleets with a pilot on the first raft to guide the rest. When the rafts reached Pittsburgh, the raftmen, called "yellow bellies," started the long journey home on foot. On the way home

they were forced to stop at hotels where food was somewhat scarce and not entirely appetizing.

Rafting pilots were numerous in Punxsutawney. Among them were William Fairman, Mr. Steffy, William J. Drum, John K. North, W. C. Campbell, Oal Carrier, A. C. White and James Saltsgiver. (Bair, John B., *Early Recollections of Punxsutawney*.)

Names were often given to towns, dams, mills, rocks, eddies, and runs by the rafters. This story is told of one of them. In 1812 Jesse Armstrong, his wife, Sally, William Neal, and two friendly Indians started on an exploring voyage down the Mahoning Creek. Their means of conveyance was a raft, similar to those of rafters, guided by long poles. Not long after their departure the raft was forced into a powerful eddy. Sally made a desperate leap for shore but missed; and, had it not been for Neal's quick thinking, she would have perished. Reaching out, Neal grasped her by the hair and pulled her back on the raft. The scene of this accident is still called "Sally's Eddy." (Coxson, J. K., *The Early Days of Punxsutawney and Western Pennsylvania*, pp. 97-109.)

More about rafting. Nearly everybody rafted and I thought that I had to do the same. Punxsutawney was the starting point and the creek was divided into three sections, first to the big dam, second to Putneys, and third to the mouth, and the hands were hired for trips according to these sections. From the big dam to Putneys was what was called the rough water. Many things and places were given names along the creek, such as towns, dams, mills, rocks, eddys and runs. Mills and dams were generally called for the people who owned them. The following is a list of some of them. Old time raftsmen will readily remember them:

James St. Clair's dam and grist mill, Punxsutawney; Jerry Myers dam and sawmill, Punxsutawney; G. A. Mundoff's dam and grist mill, West End; Samuel Hughes' dam and grist mill, now Sportsburg; Sand Hole, Whitesville (now Valier); Kecok Island; Round Bottom, Ross's Run; Slipt Hill, Perrysville; Sellersville dam and grist mill; Loop; Charley's Rock; Little Mahoning Creek-Enterline's dam above Big Dam; Big Dam and Grist Mill and Milton; Phoenix dam and furnace; Neal's dam and sawmill; Driftwood and Sally's Eddy in rough water; McCray's dam and sawmill and furnace; Walker dam and grist mill; Eddyville; Putney's dam and grist and sawmills, Putneyville; Reede's dam and grist mill; Stewartson furnace and dam; Hen and Chickens Rocks; Sliding Rock; Mouth of Mahoning Creek. (Bair, John B., *Early Recollections of Punxsutawney*.)

John B. Bair wrote in his memoirs, "Early port masters that I remember were Thomas S. Mitchell and Thomas McKee, whose office was on Water Street in an old log house where he made chairs and spinning wheels. He was an honest man and would not use green lumber, and to corroborate this assertion I would state that his chairs and wheels are scattered over this country and are in use to this day."

John B. Bair wrote, "One of my earliest recollections is of the Forest House built by Ezra Root where the National Hotel now stands (corner of Union and Gilpin Streets). On this corner stood a stout post with a large swinging sign on top of it. Painted on each side of the sign there was a forest scene which showed trees, deer, and a man about to cut down a tree



with an ax. The sign was painted by John K. Coxson, the artist.

"I remember Rose Cottage where there were plenty of roses and other flowers. Around the front of it there was a nice white paling fence, which my father put up shortly after he came here; and, when it rotted down, my father and I put up another one. Charles C. Gaskill was the first to live in Rose Cottage. David Barclay lived there for a while before William Penn Gaskill moved in. Then Reuben Young bought the place. Mrs. Jane E. Kelso's house used to stand where the small grove and summer house were along side of the flower garden. H. C. Campbell later lived where the orchard had been. The farm was finally divided into many pieces and owned by different persons.

"Political campaigns were run at high pressure—conventions, speeches, parades, and pole raisings. One time they formed a parade in Punxsutawney, and the paraders drove over to Brookville (20 miles). At a Whig convention in Brookville about 1852, W. E. Gillespie had a live pet coon which he carried in front of him on the horse that he rode. Generally, large poles were raised on the public square. The Whigs put up a pine pole at the west side, and the Democrats, a hickory one at the east side." (Bair, John B., *Early Recollections of Punxsutawney*.)

During the years before the Civil War a slave underground through Punxsutawney was operated by Isaac P. Carmalt, a Quaker, whose farm was where the Punxsutawney Country Club is now located.

The system to aid runaway slaves in the United States had its origin in Columbia, Lancaster County, Pa. In 1787 Samuel Wright laid out that town, and he set apart the northeastern portion for colored people, to many of whom he presented lots. Under these circumstances that section was rapidly settled by Negroes. Hundreds of manumitted slaves from Maryland and Virginia emigrated there and built homes. The term "underground railroad" originated there in this way: At Columbia the runaway slave would be so thoroughly and completely lost to the pursuer that the slave hunter, in perfect astonishment, would frequently exclaim, "There must be an underground railroad somewhere!" There was at this place a system organized by white abolitionists to assist, clothe, feed and conduct fugitive slaves to Canada. This system consisted in changing the clothing, secreting and hiding the fugitive in the daytime, and then carrying or directing him how to travel in the night time to the next abolition station, where he would be similarly cared for. These stations existed from the Maryland line clear through to Canada. In those days the North was as a whole for slavery and to be an abolitionist was to be reviled and persecuted, even by churches of nearly all denominations. Abolition meetings were broken up by mobs, the speakers rottenegged and murdered; indeed, but few preachers would read from their pulpit a notice for an anti-slavery meeting. (McKnight, W. J., *Jefferson Co. Pa., Her Pioneers and People* (1917) vol. 1, p. 148.)

"Nearly all of the Methodists who were Abolitionists left the church and some joined other churches. They were preached out of the M. E. Church in the North." (Bair, John B., *Early Recollections of Punxsutawney*.)

The following stories are excerpts from a letter written by Mr. Carmalt's daughter, Mrs. Lowry, tell-

ing of her experiences with the escaped slaves: (Letters furnished by J. A. Organ.)

"The last slave that came to our house was after the insurrection at Harper's Ferry. He claimed to have been in the insurrection. He was accompanied by George Hartshorn, a Negro who lived near Grampian Hills. This slave was a mulatto and claimed to be the son of Judge Crittenden, who, I think, held some important office at Washington—Senator or Congressman. The slave was very nervous when he came and asked for a raw onion which he said was good to quiet the nerves. He was quite suspicious of Joe Wachob, who was working at our house at the time. He called him out and gave him his revolver, saying he would rather have his brains blown out than have Joe inform on him, for, if he were taken, he would certainly be hanged. He left during the night for Brookville. Most of the fugitives came through Centre and Clearfield Counties. One of the underground railroad stations was in Centre County near Bellefonte, and was kept by a friend by the name of Iddings, who sent them to the next station which was Grampian Hills, from thence to our house, and from here to Brookville.

"I remember well one Sabbath when I was coming home from church; a friend was coming part way with me. We noticed a colored man ahead of us. I paid but little attention, but she said, 'I know that is a slave.' I knew her pro-slavery sentiments and replied very carelessly that there was a colored family living near Grampian Hills. I supposed he was going to our house since we had been there a short time before wanting to trade horses for oxen with which to haul timber. As soon as she left me, I quickened my pace and tried to overtake him. I was afraid he might go through Clayville where there was a perfect nest of pro-slavery men who had made threats of what they would do if father assisted any more slaves to gain their freedom. Among them were a pro-slavery family, who boasted of being overseers of slave drivers while they were in the South. He kept ahead of me and stopped at James Minish's, and I thought it was all over for him because he and the pro-slavery family were connected and most likely were of the same sentiment in regard to slavery. Imagine my surprise when I came up and Mr. Minish handed me a slip of paper with the name 'Carmalt' on it and remarked that I was one of the Carmalt girls. (I suppose that it was the name of the station.) He hurried the fugitive on, and I directed him to go over the hill through the woods. I then hurried home for father to go up and meet him. When I got home, father was not there. I put on my sun-bonnet and had gone but a short distance when I met the colored man. There were several persons in the house, so I slipped him in the back way. He seemed to be in great misery and could not eat anything, but he asked for something to bathe his foot in. Then he gave a short account of his escape from slavery three years previous.

"After escaping he stopped with a man near Harrisburg at what he called Yellow Breeches Creek and worked for him. During this time he married and had a little home of his own. One day when he was ploughing in the field, he saw his old master, from whom he had escaped, and two other men coming toward him. He dropped everything, ran to his benefactor's house, and told him whom he had seen. His benefactor then pulled off his coat and boots



and directed him to put them on as the colored man was in his bare feet, having left his own coat and boots in the field. Being closely pursued, he ran to the barn. The men followed. He was then compelled to jump from a high window and, striking a sharp stone, he received a severe cut in one heel, for he had not had time to put on the boots given him by his benefactor. When he came to our house, he was suffering terribly. Father, seeing the seriousness of the wound, persuaded him to go to bed until midnight. However, the poor fellow could not sleep but moaned with pain. We have him his breakfast, and father had him get on a horse. It was just breaking day when they arrived at Brookville. A gentleman by the name of Christopher Fogle was waiting to receive them. We heard afterwards that the poor slave had succeeded in reaching Canada; but, when he returned later for his wife, he was captured and taken back to slavery.

"There is just one more incident that I will mention, which occurred at an earlier date. One morning I went to the door and saw four large colored men hurrying to the barn. I told father, and he brought them in. Our breakfast was just ready. Taking the precaution to lock the door, we had them sit down and eat as fast as they could. Father noticed that one of the slaves looked dull and stupid, and he inquired whether he was sick. One of the others replied that he was only a little 'donsey.' When they were through eating, father hurried them to the woods and hid them somewhere near the old schoolhouse then on the farm. When father took their dinner, the one said he was still a little 'donsey' and showed father his back. He had been terribly whipped, and salt had been rubbed in the gashes."

Stories about early school life are numerous. Old-timers can remember when they learned to write using a goose quill for a pen. One of the duties of the teachers was to make and repair these quills. The small knife used for these purposes was called a pen knife. That name remains in use today. (Bair, John B., *Early Recollections of Punxsutawney*.)

One of the first schools in the Punxsutawney vicinity was the Clayville School, built in the 1850's or '60's. This one story building, located at 101 Perry Street, is now Stear's Grocery Store.

Some of the persons who taught in the first Clayville school were Mrs. Charles Hawk, Mrs. Mary Wilson Smathers, Miss Crissie Hetrick, and Oliver Crissman. The pupils included Ott Davis, Mrs. W. B. Sutter and James Conser.

The second Clayville school, located on the site of 125 North Main Street, was built about 1882 and used as a school until 1890. Teachers in the school were Albert Kelly, Newton Kelly and George Glenn.

Other early teachers in this town were Lucretia Drum, Jane Carey, George Hammers, Samuel Carey, the Rev. Green, Gabriel Dunmire, A. J. Dunmire, Mr. McIntyre, A. C. White, A. J. Moulh, and Samuel Wolfe. (Ibid.)

School entertainment consisted mainly of weekly spelling bees in which neighboring schools participated. (Interview with Cam Horner in 1949.)

The following description of early school life is from *A History of the Evans Family* by R. R. Evans:

"Our schools were few and far between. The first school we had was on the Isaac Jordan farm now owned by Job Brown. The schoolhouse as a little round log house with a fireplace in one corner that

would take a stick of wood from 6 to 8 feet long. For seats there were slabs, flat side up, with legs in. For writing desks there were holes bored in the logs around the walls, and boards were put in those holes. For windows a log was cut out of the wall, and a sash of 8x10 inch glass was put in.

"Our first teacher was Joseph B. Hutchison. The next two school terms, lasting three months each, were taught by Hiram Williams.

"Later there was a move to build a new schoolhouse near the center of the district which was on the east end of our farm in a place called 'Battle Hollow.' The hollow got the name by a dispute between the school directors in locating a spot on which to build the school. They got so high on it that one of the directors said to the other that, if he could not understand what he meant, he could dint it into his head with his knuckles. The boys heard of this argument and named the place 'Battle Hollow.'"

One of Punxsutawney's best known school buildings, later named the Mary A. Wilson building, was dedicated September 22, 1890. The service was opened by the reading of the Bible by the Rev. J. G. Noble. This was followed by short speeches by the Rev. L. N. Montgomery, W. W. Winslow, the Rev. H. G. Hall, the Rev. J. G. Miller, Prof. J. L. Allison, and C. M. Brewer.

In 1939 the building, which had been condemned, was razed. At the northeast corner of the plot was placed a monument on top of which was the old school bell which, in years past, had notified thousands of boys and girls of Punxsutawney that school was in session.

The monument contains a tablet in memory of Mary A. Wilson which reads:

"In loving remembrance of Mary A. Wilson—1836-1908—for more than fifty years, primary teacher in the public schools of Punxsutawney. She counted not the mortal years—At Dawn of Eager Youth immortal lives she planned—The Torch of Learning from her patient hands Two Thousand Children took and carried on." (Miss Olive Wood's Scrapbook.)

Punxsutawney has had many celebrations during its first 100 years but one of the most memorable was the celebration of Philadelphia's centennial in 1866. The citizens of Punxsutawney were enjoying themselves immensely by setting off cannons, firecrackers, and anything else that happened to be at hand. However, because of the danger, the activity was stopped by the local police. (Interview with Elmer McElwain in 1949.)

The story is told of Frank Mundorff, a solemn joker of earlier days and a friend of the average small boy. Once, when a circus was in town, Frank saw a group of wistful looking boys standing around the door of the circus tent. He approached the man at the door and with great dignity said:

"Count those boys, please."

The man motioned the boys to approach and told them to file in. He kept careful count as the boys filed past.

"There were exactly forty-two of them," said the doorkeeper.

"That is about what I had estimated," replied Mr. Mundorff. "I have no doubt your count was correct."

"Forty-two boys at 25 cents a head would be \$10.50."



"Yes," said Frank as he started away. "I am satisfied that you arithmetic is all right. I asked you to count the boys—nothing more. You generously passed them into the show, which was very kind. Thank you, sir. Good day, sir." (*Punxsutawney Spirit*.)

There have been several destructive fires in Punxsutawney's history, but probably the one with the most interesting background was the Evans' planing mill fire told about by R. R. Evans:

"June 20, 1882, Jack Riddle, a burglar, set fire to our mill and burned us out. Everything went into ashes, books and all. The loss, from which we never fully recovered, amounted to \$10,000. 'Notorious Jack' Riddle, as he was called, was from Night Owl Hollow, Clarion County. He had been in the penitentiary I don't know how many times. We were informed that he was the fellow who burned the mill, by one of his gang named Hopkins, who died in Punxsutawney some time later. Before he died, he confessed to belonging to Riddle's gang. According to his statement, the object of burning our mill was to rob the Mahoning Bank by drawing the crowd down to the fire, capturing the bank's cashier, M. J. Dinsmore, gagging him, and forcing him to open the bank vault. However, the plan failed, and we were the ones to suffer."

The end of Punxsutawney's first lock-up was brought about by unusual circumstances. The weather was particularly cold, and, since there was no fire in the small jail, the prisoner, who had been arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct, gathered together some papers and lighted them. The blaze got out of control, and both he and the jail were destroyed before assistance could come. (Interview with Elmer McElwain in 1949.)

The wild duck storm of '88 is remembered by many old timers. Great flocks filled the sky and nearby creek. Men armed with guns and sticks brought the fowl home in tubs. Those who attempted to eat them were disappointed, for they tasted exactly like fish. However, as a result, there were many new feather beds in Punxsutawney. (Interview with Clark Rodgers in 1923 and J. P. McConnell in 1949.)

As a result of plunging into the fearful white heat of a burning coke oven at Walston, John Gulish, the 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gulish, of Walston, died in the Adrian Hospital, where he was taken immediately following the horrible accident. His little body was seared from head to foot, the boy escaping from the oven without aid. (Mary A. Wilson's Scrapbook, through the courtesy of Miss Nan Wilson.)

The residents of Punxsutawney were enthusiastic balloonists. The following story is told of a Professor McAninch, the Perrysville aeronaut, who attempted to give the spectators a thrilling balloon ascension and parachute drop in 1892; and, although he was not altogether successful, the watchers were entertained. Preparations were duly made on the Fair Grounds. The balloon was filled with hot air and smoke, and everything was in readiness. McAninch was buckled fast to the parachute. The ropes that secured the balloon were cut, and the big bag arose lifting McAninch three or four feet from the ground.

"Get out of the way, kids! Goodbye, everybody," shouted the aeronaut.

But the balloon showed great reluctance to leave the earth. The load was too heavy. It came down

and bounced and skipped along the ground, dragging McAninch with it. After covering five or six hundred feet in this way, McAninch saw a high board fence directly in front of him. He cut himself loose. The balloon, freed from its burden, slowly rose, hovered above town for a few moments, collapsed, turned a flip-flop and lit in Fred Hummel's potato patch. The way the balloon behaved was a bitter disappointment to McAninch, who said that he was going to conquer the dig-busted thing if it took him all summer." (*Punxsutawney Spirit* of July 13, 1892.)

About 1893 an accident occurred at the Fair Grounds which froze the blood of all the spectators. N. A. Crissey, a balloonist of Johnstown, Pa., was employed by Professor Fredricy to make a balloon ascension and parachute descent with a new device. A large cylinder or sheet iron cannon was attached to the balloon by means of ropes. In this the balloonist was concealed. When the balloon reached the desired altitude, one end of the cylinder was to drop down; the balloonist, hanging from a bar, was to shoot out. He then was to cut the rope which attached the parachute to the balloon and make his descent.

After all preparations were completed, the balloon was released. It rose to a height of 1,800 feet. When Crissey slid out, he was not holding the bar but was suspended from a belt around his waist to which flimsy ropes were attached. When he fell, the rope broke. The large crowd present held its breath in horror. The balloonist, clutching at the air and turning over and over, approached the earth with fearful velocity. A sickening thud, distinctly heard from every part of the grounds, announced that it was all over. He had fallen outside the fence on the side beyond town. (Mary A. Wilson Scrapbook, through the courtesy of Miss Nan Wilson.)

Earl Sandt was one of the first boys in Pennsylvania to become an airplane pilot. He once made an exhibition flight from Brookville, his home town, to Punxsutawney. When his plane left Brookville, the Iron Works whistle in Punxsutawney began to blow. Upon hearing it, all the people rushed out and waited anxiously, eyes strained towards Brookville. At the end of nineteen minutes the plane appeared and landed on a white place that had been marked at the Fair Grounds. This was the first airplane that many of the residents had ever seen. (Interview with John St. Clair in 1923.)

In 1893 it was decided that, if women wanted the right to vote, they must not wear hoops. It would have been impossible for a woman wearing hoops to get into a tiny election booth. (*Punxsutawney Spirit* of April 19, 1893.)

Unique among Punxsutawney's industries was the Eldred glass plant, which was started in Eldred in 1908 by a group of glass workers. Because of a shortage of natural gas in that area, they had to move to some other locality. A committee formed of Leopold G. Bastin, Oscar Wargny, A. C. Wargny and Jules Wery visited Punxsutawney at the solicitation of Samuel A. Rinn. This visit was instrumental in bringing a favorable decision to locate in Punxsutawney. Erection of the new building began in the spring of 1908 and the plant was in operation in the fall of the same year under the management of Jules Wery.

The concern soon became prosperous; and at that time, about 150 workmen were employed. The majority of the men, who were from France and Belgium, were skilled in the art of glass making.



This plant produced window glass by the old hand cylinder process which at that time was considered very up-to-date.

The molten glass was refined in an immense tank where the raw materials and the broken glass were melted at a temperature of 2300 degrees. The raw materials consisted of sand, soda ash, salt cake, lime and carbon.

This plant was very successful until the fall of 1916 when a fire destroyed the old buildings. The plant was immediately rebuilt in greater proportions, and the capacity was increased to almost twice that of the previous plant.

The improved methods of manufacturing glass by machine presented a serious problem to the firm. At that time the development of the machine-cylinder method of production and later the sheet process of manufacturing was increasing by leaps and bounds. In 1923 the competition presented by these machines forced the firm to change its process of manufacturing. First, the board of directors made an effort to adopt the Pittsburgh Plate Mechanical Cylinder Machine, but this proved unsuccessful. A new company, known as the Standard Sheet Glass Company, was organized under the management of D. L. Dennis, of Eldred, Pa. This company planned to use the Hiltont cylinder machine but later adopted the Fourcault machine. These last efforts proved unsuccessful because of lack of substantial capital.

Some of the original owners and workers of the firm were: Leopold G. Bastin, Joseph Bayot, Joseph Buisset, Joseph Dangotte, Charles Guignet, Felix Halluin, Jules Halluin, Casper Lopp, Alex Lang, Antoine Lang, Leon Lang, Felix Larmoyeux, Jules Larmoyeux, Regnier, Mabilie, Oscar Panier, Leon Piquet, Arthur Squifflet, Joseph Wargny, Achille Wargny, Adolph Wazelle, John M. Wazelle, Jules Wery. (Interview with Raymond Dereume in 1949.)

Floods in Punxsutawney are nothing new. Reminiscences about them range from seeing pigs floating atop chicken cooks to the observation of a man, garbed in hip boots and an overcoat, sloshing through several feet of water and calmly stopping in the teeming rain to look at the pictures in Frampton's windows. (Mrs. P. L. Smith.) During the 1936 flood 35 people in the Penney store were prevented from getting home by 36 inches of water. They spent the night in the J. Freas Jones apartment above. (Interview with Mrs. J. Freas Jones in 1949.)

In 1882 Punxsutawney was a typical backwoods Pennsylvania village extending from the East End Bridge to Church Street. This village was one of three, the other two being Clayville and Middletown. At that time there was only one house and a race course belonging to Mr. Wilson on Jenks Hill. Dr. Hubbard was the only resident of Findley Street; the rest of that street was swamp where the young people of Punxsutawney were accustomed to skate in the winter.

A more complete description of early Punxsutawney has been given to us by E. S. Swartz, Sr.

"My first knowledge of Punxsutawney dates from March 1, 1885. Since it was confined to the area from Front Street to Gilpin Street and from Pine Street to Liberty Street, the town was in a very primitive state.

"As I recall the first house on the other side of the East End bridge was the W. A. Dunlap residence which is now the Episcopal Church. Next was the

Henry Ernest home where the Ford garage now stands (538 East Mahoning Street). Opposite that was the Gray home. Next was the R. W. Dinsmore home. On top the hill (921 East Mahoning Street) was the George H. Torrence residence. The John Irvin property was at the top of Woodland Avenue. After the Pennsylvania and Northwestern Railroad was completed, the land lying south of Mahoning street was bought up by the Philadelphia Land Company. They laid out Oakland, Woodland, and Highland Avenues and built a few homes there.

"The City Hotel, owned and operated by Louis Enterline, was located where the Park Apartments now stand. In front of this hotel was a fancy lantern in which a lighted candle was placed. At night the candle drew attention to the hotel and illuminated the town. Across the street was the George W. Zeidler home and store. Dr. Shields had his office, general store and pharmacy at 238 East Mahoning Street where the Eagles building is. The first bank was also on his property. The E. N. Wehrle jewelry store was next to the bank. The Washington Hotel, owned by F. Hummel, stood on the corner where Kroger's is (202-204 East Mahoning Street).

"Jacob Zeitler's home and harness shop were on the County National Bank lot (118 East Mahoning Street). North and Miller operated a general store on the site of the Punxsutawney National Bank (116 East Mahoning Street). John Bennis owned and operated the Central Hotel on the land now occupied by Fry's and the Punxsutawney Hardware Company (106-110 East Mahoning Street). Johnston and Fink operated a store on the Farmers and Miners Trust Company corner (100 East Mahoning Street).

"J. A. Weber had a clothing store called the Checkered Front (it was painted in red and white checks a foot square) where Swartz's now stands (100 West Mahoning Street). John Grier operated a hardware store where Barletta's have one of their grocery stores (102 West Mahoning Street). The Rowe Brothers opened a hotel called the Duquesne on this block. The Whitney Hotel, owned by Elmer Shaffer, stood in the land now occupied by Stewart's Drug Store and the Children's Shop (126-128 West Mahoning Street).

"The northeast corner of West Mahoning and Gilpin Street was originally the Davis property which housed the post office and a private residence, later purchased by E. A. Murray, who operated a department store. John B. Bair operated the town's first department store where the Pennsylvania Electric Company's office is today (200 West Mahoning Street). That about finished up the north side of the street.

"On the south side, the St. Elmo Hotel covered the ground that is now occupied by the Pantall Hotel. In front of this hotel was a large swinging sign on a post on which was painted a blazing sun laid in gold leaf by John K. Coxson. Where Rosenthal's store is located was originally the Graff home, one of the few brick homes in the city at that time. From their home down to the corner was their garden.

"The Murphy corner (101 West Mahoning Street), where the Cumberland Presbyterian Church first stood, was later purchased by J. B. Eberhart, who erected a department store there. Next to it was a two-story brick building in which the Snyder brothers opened a 5 and 10 novelty store on the ground floor. From there on to Gilpin Street was owned by Judge Torrence. He had a fine house set back about 25 feet and an iron fence extending down to where the



Jones building begins (131 West Mahoning Street). On the corner he had a large two story frame building that extended around Gilpin Street to the alley. It was later occupied by the Adams Express, the post office, a lumber office, and Swartz's Tailoring Shop.

"The Mahoning Hardware lot was vacant, but where Mrs. J. L. Fisher now lives (215 West Mahoning Street) was a one story frame office occupied by Winslow and Calderwood, a law firm. The present location of the Public Library (217 West Mahoning Street) was originally the home of Stanley Altman, the burgess at that time. Next was the I.O.O.F. building. The Salvation Army quarters (229 West Mahoning Street) was originally the First Methodist Church. Next to the church James H. Maize, cashier of the First National Bank, built his home. On the corner of Morrison Avenue and West Mahoning Street, Mr. Morrison had a home. There was but one more building on the south side of Mahoning Street. That was the Chandler cottage near the Iron Works office. On the north side of Mahoning Street to the old borough line which was at the Iron Works there were no more than ten or twelve homes in 1885" (Interview with E. S. Swartz, Sr.)

In early Punxsutawney tanneries were important businesses. There were two in town. One, owned by J. G. McConnell, was located on the corner of Ridge and Jenks Avenues. The pits were where the B. & O. railroad tracks are now. A lime solution was put into some of these pits; other pits contained solutions to take the hair off the hides. The pits created a terrible smell. The other tannery, owned by James Torrence and located where the Jones' furniture store is today, had its pits back on Union Street. These pits were used for years and years. (Interview with J. P. McConnell in 1949.)

In Clayville, now a part of Punxsutawney, was a large Welsh settlement in the late 1880's. "The Downfall of the Old Regime" by W. W. Winslow describes a town meeting of these Welsh people.

## THE DOWNFALL OF THE OLD REGIME

There was tumult in the village,  
In the quaint old foundry town,  
Members of the ancient families  
Pacing restless up and down;  
Here Gillespies, there McGregors,  
Sutters, Reddings, Kinsels, Longs,  
Murrays, Consers, Rodgers, Blokes,  
Crissmans, Neffs in anxious throngs.

"Will they do it? Dare they do it?  
Must we yield our vested right?  
Can the foreign-born invader  
Crush our manhood by his might?  
After holding sway unchallenged  
From the first until this hour,  
Shall we bow in tame submission  
To the Welshman's haughty power?"

"We have grown up in the borough,  
They were born across the sea;  
Yet they crowd within our borders,  
Sacred refuge of the free,  
Every man of them a voter,  
And they whisper each to each,  
Forming direful combinations  
In their mystifying speech.

"Old inhabitants, assemble!

To the town-hall let us go,  
We may yet control the caucus,  
There we still will have a show."  
So they hurried to the meeting,  
Not a man was left behind,  
And they found the Welsh had gathered  
Every voter of their kind.

Then the meeting came to order,  
Morgan Lloyd was in the chair,  
John T. Jones was secretary,  
For the Welsh had votes to spare.  
"Nominations for the ticket,"  
Was the president's request,  
"Burgess, School Director, Council,  
'Squire, Collector and the rest."

"David Davis," "Thomas Thomas,"  
"Evan Evans," "Titus Lloyd,"  
"Howell Jones," "Eleazer Higgins,"  
"Morgan Charles," and "Jenkins Boyd."  
These names caught the chair's attention,  
These the secretary wrote,  
While the natives saw their chances  
Growing more and more remote.

Near the door was Hughey Parkhill,  
Born and bred within the town,  
Struggling hard for recognition,  
Rising up and sitting down.  
"I would nominate—" he started—  
"Jenkins Jenkins," came a voice,  
And a chorus of approval  
Evidenced the people's choice.

Once again came valiant Hughey—  
"I would nominate—" he tried,  
But another interruption—  
"Morgan Morgan," some one cried.  
Consternation marked the faces  
Of the old inhabitants,  
As they looked at one another  
In a last despairing glance.

Flushed with anger, still courageous  
Came the native warrior bold;  
"I will nominate," he thundered,  
But the name was never told;  
"Watkins Watkins," called another.  
'Twas the final crack of doom—  
"Coalhole! Coalhole!" shouted Hughey,  
Bolting madly from the room.  
—W. W. Winslow.  
(\*Original version altered.)

"There were two small runs in Punxsutawney. The original course of Grave Yard Run was around the foot of Cherry Street to the east of Findley Street through the land which was once a swamp across from the B. & O. Railroad station. From there it flower back of the row of houses on North Jefferson Street through the Alva Cole residence (217 North Jefferson Street) and came out about where Costanzo's is located (206 East Mahoning Street). It ran across Mahoning Street, cut diagonally across the park to South Jefferson Street to the location of the Pifer Funeral Home. It ran down Union Street until it reached Gilpin Street, then flowed up Gilpin to Ma-



honing Street, and from there to Church Street, where it emptied into the Mahoning. At one time there was a bridge over Grave Yard Run at Mahoning and Gilpin Streets.

"Later the borough dug the famous Miller Ditch, commencing in a swamp along the east side of Findley Street and running down the east side of the Street to about opposite the Y.M.C.A. building, where it crossed the street to the west side. It ran along the west side of Findley Street all the way to Union Street. From Union Street it emptied into the creek. The ditch was dug to drain the back swamps and to dispose of the water from Grave Yard Run." (Ibid.)

The Mahoning Creek presented a different aspect 60 years ago from what it does today. At the end of Union Street there was a slope down into the creek. Inhabitants of the town were accustomed to drive their wagons down this slope into the creek to clean them. Often they were hindered by a flock of geese swimming there. Even in the winter when the creek was frozen over and a hole had to be cut through the ice, the creek was used by the Baptists for baptism. The water was so cold that the victim's clothes were apt to freeze on him. (Interview with Mrs. Ella Smith in 1949.) The creek was also used as a public bath tub. A visitor to Punxsutawney said that the boys here were the cleanest in the world because they soaked from spring to fall.

Along the northwest bank of the Mahoning stood an old elm tree which is reputed to have been the site of Indian treaties. Several arrow heads have been found near this scene, and the report that this spot was an Indian camping ground has been passed down from one generation to the next. The tree died in 1919, and the stump was removed recently. (Clark D. Barr.)

There is a sycamore tree in front of the home of Esther Coble (418 Graffius Avenue) which is over 100 years old. This may be the tree under which an old Indian woman supposedly buried a huge treasure years ago. (Mrs. Flora Adams.)

Residents of Punxsutawney still talk about the days when a trolley ran from East End to West End and later to Walston, Big Run, Adrian and Reynoldsville.

Joseph M. Sheeser, a conductor on the trolley, says: "In 1904 I went to work for the Jefferson Traction Company. This was after the Walston line was completed. My first run and early experiences were under the direction of John Morris, Harry Bidwell and Sam Curry, all of whom are deceased; also, Miller Stoops, who now lives in the Oliveburg district. At this time I received wages of 14 cents an hour, worked eleven or twelve hours a day, and seven days a week. There were two cars on the Walston run and one on the city line, which was between East End and West End. Since the Walston line made a round trip every hour, it was considered the best run of the traction company. We always had spare time at the terminals. The mines and coke ovens of the R. & P. C. and I. Company were going full blast then.

"Since we knew most of the patrons of our line, if we knew it was time for their ride and they were not on time, we rang the bell and waited for them.

"About the year 1908 Roy Wood, of Liberty Street, and a few years later, Charles Stoops, deceased, comprised the crew on my run. We worked together and saw the first automobiles in town owned by Hans Olsen and Des Freas. In that time automobiles were

a novelty. A little later, automobiles, paved roads, and buses began to take the patronage away from the street car. The Jefferson Traction Company ceased operation in September, 1927. There was a last free ride with Burgess W. C. Tibby along. A group of souvenir hunters stripped the car. They left barely enough for Roy and me to get into the barn." (Joseph M. Sheeser.)

The Punx'y Iron Furnace was lighted September 29, 1897, at 8:30 o'clock. Mrs. William A. Rodgers, wife of the president of the company, applied the torch. She christened it "The Martha." A large crowd of people were present and, after the fire was lighted, three rousing cheers were given. That constituted the ceremony, and one of the largest and most modern iron furnaces in the world was in operation. Besides William A. Rodgers, president of the company, and wife, of Buffalo; Josiah J. Monroe, treasurer, and his wife, of the same city; Julian Kennedy, of Pittsburgh, designer of the furnace, and Samuel Kennedy, assistant superintendent of the Isabella Furnace at Sharpsburg, were also present.

This plant, which was officially known as the Punx'y Iron Furnace, was under the direct supervision of E. C. McKibbin, in charge of the Punx'y office, and John H. Kennedy, superintendent of the works. John W. Kennedy had charge of the chemical laboratory.

The works employed about 200 men, and had a capacity of 250 tons a day. There were then 66,000 tons of ore on the ground, and about 35,000 additional tons were to be brought in before navigation on the lakes closed. The works paid out in wages about \$2,000 weekly. (Mary A. Wilson's scrapbook, through the courtesy of Miss Nan Wilson.)

Wells and town pumps were the meeting places in early Punxsutawney. The town pump on the old Cooper property on Front Street was one of the best remembered of these. Mrs. Edna Klein Hawk says, "How well I remember the old pump on Front Street! Way back in 1909-10 the young men called for their young ladies and took them walking for hours thru the town, or, perhaps, they might have gone to a nickelodeon. However, all ended up at the 'Good Old Pump,' with its big rusty tin cup, which made drinking fit for a king."

Another familiar well was at the foot of Cherry Street. A long pipe extended from the hillside into a trough for the horses. "In dry weather people often stood in line as early as 11 o'clock Sunday night to get water for Monday's washing, for the well never went dry." (Interview with Mrs. Francis O'Keefe in 1949.)

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John Drum, Joseph Cochran, Henry Smith, William Robinson, William Long, David Barnett, James St. Clair, Absalom DeHaven, William E. Gillespie were pioneer Punxsutawney constables.

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Almost every article of clothing, all of the cloth in use in the old log cabins, was the product of the patient woman-weaver's toil. She spun the flax and wove the cloth for skirts, pantaloons, frocks, sheets, and blankets.

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The most important events in pioneer days, as they are today, were weddings and deaths. Pioneers travelled for days to attend weddings and funerals. The wedding parties travelled on horseback.



# FLOODS AND FIRES

Compiled by GEORGIE ANN FUNK

## FLOOD OF 1861

The highest flood since 1832 occurred in September 1861. It was possible to run a boat almost to the corning of Mahoning and Penn Streets. It was necessary to let cows out of barns and allow them to wade and swim to the hills and to scaffel (scaffel refers to rafts which were built for the purpose of saving pigs from drownings) pigs as often as three times to keep them from drowning. Many people moved their families upstairs. The plank and board sidewalks had to be tied to keep them from going adrift.

Toward morning Rev. C. M. Hurd, pastor of the Methodist Church, heard the sound of water in his bedroom. He jumped out of bed into knee-deep water. The parsonage stood so low that water came as high as the window sills on the first floor. The 1861 flood was brought on by twelve hours of steady rain. (Material from "Newsreel" in *Punxsutawney News*.)

## THE FIRE OF 1873

Although the fire of 1873 was not considered a great fire, many people were badly burned in the tragedy. When the silence of the night was shattered by the ear splitting scream, "Fire!" people instantly filled the street and tried in vain to put out the fire. This fire destroyed the blocks from Findley Street to Penn Street. Practically every building was burned including the Fisher Hotel, the most important building in town, which was located on the southwest corning of East Mahoning and Jefferson Streets; the Jennings Hotel, located on the northwest corner of East Mahoning and Jefferson Streets where Johnson's Grill now stands; and the Washington Hotel, which was located on the northeast corner of East Mahoning and Jefferson Street where the Masonic Building now (1949) stands.

## THE FIRE OF 1879

The fire of June 3, 1879, started in the St. Elmo Hotel, a three story frame building located on the southwest corning of Mahoning and Jefferson Streets. The fire went in the directions of the four winds, demolishing the buildings whose fronts were on the public square. It burned the buildings between Jefferson Street, Farmers Alley and Pine Alley, and the Washington Hotel on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Jefferson Streets.

## THE FIRE OF 1886

About 2 o'clock Saturday morning, October 9, 1886, the citizens of this town were awakened by the cry of "Fire!" the clang of bells and the shrill voices of steam whistles.

The fire originated in the rear of the St. Elmo store building in upstairs rooms occupied by the Joseph Willard family. Will Reese gave the alarm. Soon the flames shot between the St. Elmo building, located at 134 East Mahoning Street where Jordan's store now stands, and the Kuntz hardware store. John Walton, was the strong blacksmith who pulled the door off the St. Elmo Hotel when it started to

burn. Because the majority of the buildings were of wood, the fire spread rapidly. The flames swept down Mahoning Street, consuming F. S. Thompson's billiard room, Jacob Zeitler's harness shop, the First National Bank building, and Mr. Zeitler's barn and outbuildings, and the frame building attached to the rear of Mrs. Stumph's millinery store. South of Mahoning Street it spread until it spent its fury at the corner of Jefferson and Union Streets where a carpenter shop had been torn down.

E. S. Swartz and other men worked from 5:00 p. m. to 12:00 M. fighting the fire in a store across the alley from the Zeitler building, which was located on the northwest corner of West Mahoning and Jefferson Streets. Rugs were dropped from the roof and water poured on them to protect the building and its windows. The only fire fighting implements were buckets. The town had a good supply of water which helped and most of the people worked with the zeal and enthusiasm of well trained firemen. One man (the late W. O. Smith) had been able to sleep through the uproar and was surprised to awaken at 8 o'clock in the morning to learn there had been a fire. The origin of the fire remains a mystery.

The total loss of real and personal property, according to estimate was \$158,350, and the insurance amounted to a little more than half the amount of the loss, or \$75,850.

## THE GREAT FIRE OF 1900

Another destructive fire, and the greatest of all in value of real property consumed, occurred on the afternoon of August 23, 1900, the second day of the Punxsutawney Fair. When the fire broke out at 2 o'clock, most of the townspeople were at the fair grounds. This fact caused considerable confusion in their getting to the scene of the fire. Smoke was first seen coming out of Kirchner's Novelty Store, located in the North building at 116 East Mahoning Street where the Punxsutawney National Bank now stands. At 4 o'clock the Lindsey and DuBois fire departments were called. It was 5 o'clock before the fire was fully under control.

The business blocks on the north side of Mahoning Street between Findley Street and Pine Alley were destroyed by the fire. The North building, which was owned by Theodore Kurtz and occupied by Edelblute Bros.' dry goods store and Kirchner's novelty store, was gutted. The large frame building occupied as a hardware by Grier and Osterhout, which is now the Punxsutawney Hardware, 110 East Mahoning Street, was destroyed. The brick block known as the Johnson building, the first floor of which was occupied by the J. B. Eberhart general store and H. J. Loeb's clothing store, was reduced to an unsightly wreck. The Eberhart store, which is now the Farmers and Miners Trust Co., on the northeast corner of Mahoning and Findley Streets, the Loeb store which is now Abelman's, Fry's China Store, and Hamilton's drug store were among the damaged buildings.

The total loss of the fire was well over \$115,000. Grier and Osterhout's loss neared \$33,000; Kurtz, \$10,000; Kirchner, \$7,500; J. B. Eberhart, \$10,000, and Loeb, \$11,000. The tenants who lived above the



buildings lost a combined total of approximately \$3,000.

### THE FIRE OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1903

Punxsutawney suffered again from a disastrous fire on September 15, 1903. The fire started at night when most of the townspeople were in bed and lasted until the middle of the morning. The fire began in a clothing store, which is now the space used as a parking lot between Annarino's Hotel, 244 North Findley Street, and Abelman's warehouse, and destroyed most of the east side of Findley Street. One building that was destroyed was the Drummond plumbing Shop, at the site now occupied by Mary's Restaurant, George's Fashion Shop, 112 North Findley, and the Punxsutawney Furniture Exchange, 208 North Findley Street. The estimated loss in the fire was \$68,000.

### 1911 FLOOD

The flood which descended upon Punxsutawney Sunday night, October 1, 1911, reached its crest at 5:00 a. m., Monday, October 2. The rain fell in torrents all day Sunday. The rain ceased at 7:30, but the water continued to rise. The East End section between the Pennsylvania Railroad Station and the bridge was under water.

Horses, cattle, pigs, and other livestock were driven hillward. By Tuesday the fairground hill was alive with animals. Two horses, 15 pigs, and many cows and chickens were known to have been drowned. Many animals were washed down the Mahoning Creek. Crops were swept away, mine machinery was damaged, tracks and bridges were washed out and chicken coops, pig pens, and outhouses were carried off to be set down some place else. The Beck and Marshall stables, located on the east side of North Gilpin Street next to Cranberry Alley had difficulty in saving their horses. The damage was estimated at about \$400,000.

### FLOOD OF 1936

Punxsutawney experienced on March 17, 1936, its worst flood in a quarter century. Following a 14-hour rain, creeks and streams overflowed their banks, covering all lowlands and making streets of the city practically impassable. It was estimated that the Mahoning Creek rose from 12 to 14 feet on Tuesday, March 17. Streets were inundated, cellars were flooded, and sewers backed up as the Mahoning Creek went on a rampage.

Industries were compelled to close because the machinery was crippled by high water. Damage to merchandise in stores was estimated at more than \$500,000 while a similar damage was done to machinery, basements, and properties. Property damage alone

exceeded \$1,000,000. The loss to the Punxsutawney Beef and Provision Company on Indiana Street amounted to between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

On Tuesday, fully 1,000 families were marooned in the downtown and lower East End section of this city. The flood struck the East End at about 12:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. A few hours later between four and five feet of water covered the downtown section which was completely shut off from automobile communication. Approximately 500 telephone lines were out of commission Wednesday and Thursday. On Thursday, Punxsutawney was recovering from the most disastrous flood in its history.

Condensed from *The Spirit*, March 20, 1936.

### THE JENKS HILL SCHOOL FIRE

Punxsutawney's worst fire in the past twenty-five years destroyed the 47-year-old Jenks Hill School building on January 15, 1947, with estimated loss of \$100,000.

Eighty firemen from the city's three companies threw 600,000 gallons of water from nine hose lines on the flames for five hours before the fire was brought under control. Firemen were hampered by inadequate water pressure from five hydrants that were used.

The flames that destroyed the eight-room, two-story building on Jenks Avenue were discovered by Mrs. George Gibson, of Big Run, a teacher in the Jenks Hill School, as she drove by the building.

The flames, which were visible for several miles, attracted hundreds of persons, most of whom watched the fire's progress from the big lawn in front of the Adrian Hospital, located directly opposite.

The cause of the fire, which presumably started in the basement of the building, was not determined, inasmuch as the two floors and roof structure crashed into the basement during the height of the blaze.

The fire broke out about 6 o'clock, the school's students having been dismissed for the day.

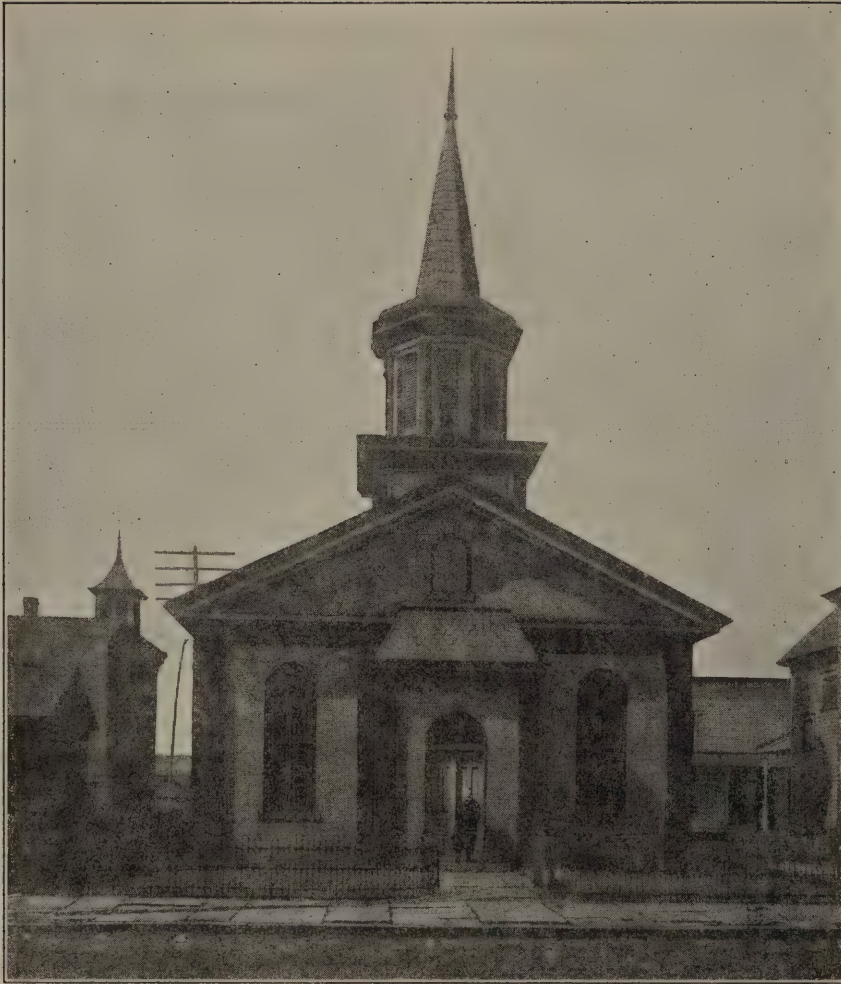
George P. Grube, treasurer of the Punxsutawney School Board, stated insurance coverage on the building and its contents, appraised at \$41,000, amounted to \$35,000.

The fire brought a one-day vacation to the school's 250 students who remained at home until the school board, at an emergency meeting, made arrangements for their accommodation.

Many people will remember that the fire occurred on the same day as the death of Miss Aura Law, who had been principal of the Jenks Hill School since 1918.

So closes the scrapbook of Punxsutawney. Its legends, descriptions, joys, sorrows, and tragedies—all make a composite word-picture of life in Punxsutawney, especially in its earlier days.





This was the first Baptist Church built in Punxsutawney. It was of brick and occupied the site adjoining that now occupied by the Altman Garage on North Jefferson Street. It was built in 1856. When Rev. Charles H. Fitzwilliam (shown standing in front of the church) was pastor the church property was traded to Henry Rudolph for a lot on the south side of Barclay Square and there the present edifice was built. It was dedicated October 15, 1905. Prior to the construction of the church above the Baptists held services in the old schoolhouse on the "Public Square."



# CHAPTER XI

## SOLDIERS OF VARIOUS WARS

*Compiled under general supervision of NANCY PHILLIBER*

### REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812

Although there was no town of Punxsutawney here during these wars, graves have been found in the old Findley Street cemetery indicating that men from this area participated. No actual records of their enlistment or other facts about them are available.

REVOLUTION: Hughes, Herman; McKee, Hugh; Newcome, Samuel; Perry, Wm. Scott; Shields, James; Stump, Borthol.

WAR OF 1812: Bowers, Samuel, Hamm, John; Hunt, John; Long, Joseph; McKee, Hugh; North, John; White, John.

### CIVIL WAR

This list of Civil War veterans was compiled from the original Post No. 237 records by Mrs. John VanDyke.

Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Capt. E. H. Little Post No. 237:

Alabran, Hardman	Davis, Abija	Jordan, Samuel	Painter, George	Sprankle, F. S.
Altman, D. S.	Depp, P. B.	Joyce, Michael	Palmer, Wm. H.	Sprankle, John F.
Altman, Wm.	Depp, Wm. R.	Kellar, Eliza	Pantall, John R.	Stahlman, Solomon
Bair, John B.	Dinsmore, M. J.	Kellogg, Edgar	Parkhill, Samuel H.	States, Randolph
Barclay, Arch S.	Dinsmore, R. W.	Keslar, Christ	Pearce, Andrew	Stauffer, John
Barelle, James H.	Dorn, John	Kelso, John T.	Peffer, George	St. Clair, John
Bargerstock, Henry	Drew, Martin	Kinsel, G. W.	Peffer, Henry C.	Stear, Henry
Barry, Edward	Ellenberger, Jacob	Knox, James	Peffer, John C.	Stewart, Wm.
Beck, Elias	Eminheizer, G. W.	Knox, Samuel	Perry, Wm. S.	Stiver, Gottlieb
Beck, Samuel	Ewing, J. L.	Kramer, Francis	Philliber, Robert T.	Stiver, John
Bell, John T.	Fairman, Wm.	Lamison, Thomas	Quiher, Clark	Stockdale, Peter
Benade, P. H.	Flynn, Wm.	Law, Charles M.	Reese, Andrew	Sutter, Wm. B.
Blose, Darius	Flood, Albert	Lingenfelter, A. J.	Reese, Charles	Swan, George
Blose, G. Ament	Frech, Peter	Lingenfelter, Jacob L.	Reitz, Wm. D.	Sweeney, James A.
Blose, Wm. M.	Gall, John	Little, E. H.	Rhodes, George W.	Swisher, Joseph M.
Bowman, Abram	Gearhart, John	Long, George M.	Rishel, Wm. C.	Swisher, R. M.
Bratton, John E.	Gelnette, Casper	Mathews, Samuel	Robinson, D. W.	Swisher, Robert
Brewer, Chas.	George, Wm. H.	McCartney, Wm. P.	Rodgers, Clark	Taylor, James D.
Brewer, Daniel	Gray, George	McClelland, Alex	Rodgers, W. T.	Timblin, Daniel
Brunner, Peter	Gray, George T.	McConnell, James G.	Roush, Samuel D.	Torrence, George H.
Buchanan, John C.	Gray, James S.	McHenry, John	Rowley, Frank	Torrence, Wm. C.
Buchwalter, B. F.	Green, James C.	McQuown, John C.	Rudolph, P. S.	Tweed, J. W.
Burson, Amos	Grove, Francis	McQuown, Thomas H.	Salsgiver, James	Van Ripper, C. C.
Caldwell, F. Y.	Hadden, James M.	Means, George	Seger, David C.	Varner, T. A.
Cameron, John C.	Hadden, Wm. A.	Means, H. M.	Shaffer, Alfred	Wadding, James
Campbell, Geo. S.	Hall, George	Means, Joseph	Shaffer, Henry	Walker, Peter
Campbell, H. C.	Haney, John	Miller, Angus	Shaffer, Joseph	Wall, Milton L.
Campbell, Wm. F.	Hann, Miles	Miller, Christian	Shaffer, S. S.	Watkins, Wm.
Carr, John	Harkleroad, Wm.	Miller, Solomon C.	Shields, James R.	Weaver, John W.
Chambers, James N.	Hastings, John	Mitchell, James G.	Simpson, James	Williams, James
Chambers, John	Hastings, Thomas	Mogle, George	Sink, David	Williams, Thomas
Clawson, Benoni	Heim, Frank	Mogle, James	Siverling, Abraham	Williams, Wm. C.
Cochran, Samuel	Henry, John C.	Monks, A. J.	Smyers, David	Wilson, Cyrus
Coon, Harry	Hervey, D. W. C.	Murray, Arthur H.	Smith, Adam	Wining, Philip
Coon, John	Hoffman, John	Murray, Val S.	Smith, B. C.	Winslow, A. G.
Cooper, Thos. J.	Hoover, Samuel T.	Myers, John G.	Smith, George	Wolfe, Philip D.
Cosgrove, John	Hoover, Wesley	Nantz, Wm.	Smith, George W.	Work, Wm. S.
Coy, Joseph	Hughes, Alex	Neal, David	Smith, John	Young, J. J.
Cricks, John	Irvin, John	Neil, James A.	Smith, Samuel	Zeigler, Braden
Crissman, R. J.	Jacobus, C. H.	Neil, Wm.	Smyers, Daniel	Zolner, Joseph
Crissman, W. W.	Johnston, Wm. A.	North, John K.	Spencer, Israel	Zufall, Jacob
Cunningham, E.	Jordan, James B.	North, Thomas	Spencer, J. O.	



# SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

This list was supplied by Henry Hilton and Lee Rosenberger.

Croasmun, John D.	Henneigh, Frank	McAfee, Fenton	Rosenberger, Watson	Torrence, Hugh Bert
Baker, Edward	Hetrick, Edward	McGee, Harry	Schucker, Louis E.	Tweed, Bruce W.
Bargerstock, Edward	Hilton, Henry	Mahan, Elmer A.	Shaffer, George V.	Varner, George
Bushong, Preston E.	Hoover, Thomas M.	Marshall, Miles Leon	Shaffer, Larry	Walsh, John
Chambers, James W.	Hynde, David H.	Mull, Timothy	Smitten, Arch T.	Weaver, Edward J.
Carter, Frank L.	Kremkau, Julius H.	North, Carl	St. Clair, Walter W.	White, Garfield
Cricks, Frank B.	Kremkau, Walter W.	North, Frank S.	Stear, Albert C.	White, James A.
Garrity, John B.	Laidlaw, Wm.	Pontius, Don	Stitzer, J. Edwin	Williams, O. O.
Haese, Edward	Lanzendorfer, Geo. D.	Powers, Robt. T.	Smouse, Lott	Wilson, Maxwell M.
Hall, James T.	McCartney, Wm. R.	Robinson, Jos. L.	Torrence, Frank M.	Winslow, Floyd E.
Hall, Wm. H.	McFarland, Jos. R.	Rosenberger, Lee L.	Torrence, Henry M.	Young, John D.
Hall, Russell W.				

## WORLD WAR I

When the students began looking for references to World War I, it was discovered that there was no authentic local records. Kimball Frease and a group of Volunteers, Barbara Eggleston, Joan Freas, JoAnne Hardick, and Marcia Reid, traveled to Brookville two Sundays in wintry January weather and copied some 2,000 names of veterans from the Honor Roll in the

yard of the Court House. On their second trip the girls worked in a downpour of rain. After the girls had finished copying the complete county record, it was necessary to pick out the names of the Punxsutawney veterans. This was handled by Mrs. Glenn Tait of the American Legion Auxiliary and Alva Cole.

Adams, Argyle	Crago, Arthur V.	Gray, Robert D.	Law, Harry C.	Neal, Reese
Adams, Frank T.	Croasman, Earl B.	Gresock, Peter	Levy, Benjamin	Neville, R. Merle
Albanito, Michael	Croasman, Harry E.	*Gumbert, Ray T.	Lewis, M. Paul	North, Ira E.
Albert, Richard L.	Cromley, Warren N.	Guthrie, Wm. L.	Lewis, Phil H.	O'Connor, D. Roache
Allenbaugh, Louis	Curry, Blaine C.	Graffius, Donald W.	Lias, C. Bernard	O'Keefe, Francis
Allison, Robert D.	Curry, Lawrence M.	Galbreath, John	Light, Oscar	Oliwa, Clarence
Allison S. Tait	Curry, Raymond	Haines, Fred	Light, Samuel	Pappas, W. J.
Allsip, John W.	Dawson, George E.	Hall, George W.	Lill, Alfred	Peach, Carl H.
Anderson E. C.	Dean, Robert S.	Hallman, George	Lingenfelter, John M.	Peoples, Chester A.
Annarino, Joseph J.	Defibaugh, W. E.	Hampson, Burton D.	Lockwood, James H.	*Perry, Robert B.
Anthony, Harry	Deluca, Guisepppe	Hamilton, Sutton S.	*Lockwood, Wayne H.	Pierce, Clyde C.
Anthony, Lee A.	Depp, C. L.	Harwick, George	London, Joseph R.	*Pitrone, Peter
Astorino, Frank	Dickey, Roy	Harrick, Joseph	Lyle, Glenn A.	Pifer, Russell J.
Barton, John	Dietrich, E. M.	Heckendorn, W. H.	Lowman, Alex	Pratt, William W.
Barclay, Paul Q.	Dinger, Carl	Hetrick, Frank	Mack, Clarence	Prescott, Jay K.
Barletta, Peter	Doran, J. Edward	Hippchen, Fred	Madden, James	Purdy, Henry J.
Baldwin, Clyde	Dunkle, M. B.	Hippchen, Charles R.	Maloney, Francis	Quinlisk, James
Barnett, Blair	Dunmire, Carl E.	Hoffman, Elmer A.	Maloney, Raymond L.	Raffetto, Louis
Barry, Arthur J.	Dunwoody, Murl	Hopkins, Thomas K.	Mambuca, John	Rawson, William H.
Baun, Howard J.	Eberhart, Merrill C.	Horner, David C.	Mambuca, Tony	Rees, Frank C.
Beam, R. Oakley	Epright, Paul E.	Hoy, Charles C.	Marvin, Orrie	Reese, Ernest J.
Beatty, J. Shields	Esposita, Joseph	Hutchison, Carl R.	Maze, Donald L.	Rimer, William R.
Beatty, R. Calvin	Evans, Oran M.	Jack, Franklin G.	McCartney, Ned E.	Ritter, James H.
Beck, Homer R.	Evans, Jay	Jack, H. Thomas	McCreight, W. North	Robison, E. D.
Beezer, Vincent	Fiscus, Pearl H.	Jamison, G. F.	McGee, Charles H.	Rowlands, George M.
Bell, Frank	Fiscus, Roy V.	Jarbeck, Frank J.	McGee, C. J.	Rowser, Albert E.
Bell, John Thomas	Fisher, F. W.	Johnson, Walter C.	McGee, Ira R.	Sani, Frank E.
Bennis, Arthur T.	*Fisher, John Jacob	Jordan, Fred M.	McGovern, Joseph	Scava, N. S.
Best, Guy	Flavion, Raymond	Jordan, Guy	McGovern, James F.	Schlemmer, Carl W.
Bellotte, Charles A.	Fortsch, William	Jordan, Joseph	McGovern, Leo P.	Schneider, Bernard C.
Bish, Guy	Freas, Jay H.	Jordan, Walter C.	McGregor, Thad	Scott, George E.
Bofinger, Herman	Freas, Phillip O.	Jordan Reed	McMinn, Chester D.	Serge, Domenic
Bone, John	Freedline, Warriia G.	Kanouff, Clay	McMinn, James E.	Serge, Tony
Bortz, Glenn	*Frew, Andrew	Kelly, Harry L.	McQuown, Leonard A.	Shaffer, J. Frank
Boyd, William	Frew, Stephen P.	Kelly, John Guy	Mercer, Edward F.	Sheehan, Walter
*Brennan, Eugene J.	Fullerton, Glenn B.	Kelso, John C.	Miller, Horace G., Jr.	Schneider, Carl H.
Brennan, William J.	Furniss, Harry M.	Kennedy, John	Miller, Stephen C.	Shepler, John L.
Brown, Charles	Fry, Eugene D.	Kinney, Leo Paul	Mitchell, Reid	Shepler, Russell
Brown, Henry W.	Gallo, Tony	Kinney, Harry	Mondi, Joseph	Sherman, Charles A.
Brown, Horace A.	Gaul, George	Kopp, Charles W.	Moore, John Everett	Shermer, H. A.
Bowman, Frank	Genoplus, Thomas	Kramer, Benjamin B.	Morris, George	Shoop, Fred L.
*Caldwell, Max M.	German, Frank	Kromer, Harry	Morris, Joseph T.	Sisk, William J.
Callahan, James J.	Gibson, Arnold L.	Krouse, Harry	Morris, Walter E.	Skinner, Norman
Carrick, David, Jr.	Gibson, William A.	Kunselman, Oral	*Morrison, Harry J.	Smargonski, David
Carter, Roy R.	Gillespie, W. Irving	Kunselman, Walter	Morrow, Newton	Smiley, Potter R.
Cesario, Mike	Glenn, William C.	Kuptz, John J.	Mottern, Homer C.	Smith, Asa R.
Cesario, Santo	*Gordon, Edward	Kuntz, Ralph	Murphy, Patrick	Smith, Arthur
Cole, Alva L.	Gotwald, Edward	Labosky, John	Murray, Gilbert E.	Smith, Hamilton
Colkitt, Clarence	Gotwald, John	*Lardin, Lewis E.	Murray, William E.	Smith, Thomas F.
Conway, Robert	Graham, Michael	Lavosky, Michael	Musser, Guy M.	Smith, William D.
Cook, Harold M.	Gray George F.	Law, Dan W.	Muth, Samuel T.	Smith, Wililam F.



Smouse, James  
Snyder, Clayton  
Snyder, Scott A.  
Spinelli, Peter D.  
Sprinkle, H. Miller  
States, Bert O.  
Stoops, Charles D.  
\*Straitwell, Wesley G.  
Sutter, Arnold D.  
Sutter, Frank J.  
Sutter, Guy W.  
Sutter, Hamilton  
Sutter, Guy W.  
Sutter, Robert P.

Swarm, Edgar  
Tangren, Harry  
Tibby, Matt. R.  
Thomas, George W.  
Thomes, James  
Thompson, Robert  
Thoreson, Reider  
Tote, James  
Truitt, Alex J., Jr.  
VanDyke, Chester J.  
VanDyke, John U.  
Veil, Walter H.  
Veil, James F.

Vitello, Thomas  
Walker, Harry M.  
Walker, Winfield  
Wamsted, Oscar  
Ward, Clarence E.  
Wazelle, Abe, Sr.  
Wazelle, Adolph  
Wehrle, Richard M.  
Williams, James C.  
Williams, J. Reed  
Williams, Paul D.  
Williams, Reese  
Williams, Samuel C.

Williams, William J.  
Wilson, Huber G.  
Wineberg, Vere D.  
Wingert, Fred H.  
Wolfe, Byron  
Wolfe, Charles S.  
Wood, John W.  
Yasolsky, John  
Young, Earl A.  
Young, Stanley  
Zolner, L. S.  
Zufall, Charles E.  
Zufall, Lawrence V.

## WAR WORKERS, NURSES

Adams, Beatrice  
Bennis, Irene C.  
Beyers, Bertha V.  
Chambers, Adda  
Cook, Grace  
Foltz, Cora  
Foltz, Netta Jane  
Heneigh, Mary H.  
Johnson, Emma  
Oswald, C. Jeannette

\*Died

## WORLD WAR II

This list of World War II veterans was compiled by Rachel Nelson and Nancy Philliber. The girls, who worked for one week in the evenings, copied the names of some 2,000 veterans. These names were taken from the Public Library's files of Jefferson Coun-

ty veterans that had been collected by Miss Mildred Harlan, librarian, during the war. After the copying of the list was completed, it was further checked for accuracy by Mrs. Glenn Tait of the American Legion.

Adamski, John R.  
Adams, Lorrain  
Adamson, George  
Adamson, Ralph  
Adamson, Wayne  
Airgood, Max  
Albanito, Donald M.  
Albanito, Frederick W.  
Allen, Eleanor  
Allen, James  
Alexis, Jerome  
Allison, John R.  
Allsip, John  
Altheide, Donald  
Altheid, Lawrence  
Altheide, Lawrence  
Altman, Merle  
Amblod, Paul R.  
Amundson, Gerald  
Amundson, James  
Amundson, Robert  
Anderson, Emory  
Anibaldi, Alton L.  
Anibaldi, Dorothy  
Anibaldi, Robert  
Annarino, Anthony  
Annarino, John  
Anthony, Bonnie  
Armstrong, Blair  
Armstrong, Budd  
Armstrong, Ray Louis  
Ashenfelter, John T.  
Astorino, Ross.  
Atkinson, George  
Atkinson, John  
Bair, Charles  
Bair, Mervin  
Baird, Donald  
Baran, Joseph  
Baranick, George  
Baranick, John F.  
Baranick, Theodore  
Baranick, Mike  
Barber, Patsy  
Barclay, Paul  
Barclay, William  
Barilar, Jack  
Barilar, Joseph  
Barkley, Donald O.  
Barkley, Edwin  
Barkley, Jack  
Barkley, Joseph  
Barkley, Robert  
Barletta, Joseph H.  
Barnes, Joseph  
Barnes, Harold  
Barletta, Thomas  
Barletta, Tony  
Barnett, Daryl O.  
Barron, Raymond

Barry, Edward  
Baughman, Harry Jr.  
Baun, Floyd  
Beam, Jennings B.  
Beam, Vernon  
Bearfield, Isaac F.  
Beatty, Eugene  
Beatty, Joseph S., Jr.  
Beatty, Paul W.  
Beatty, Renaldo  
Beatty, Robert  
Beaver, Troy N.  
Beck, Paul J.  
Beer, Craig  
Beezer, Joseph  
Beezer, Louis P.  
Beezer, Robert  
Behrendt, Glenn  
Belin, John  
Bell, Blaine  
Bell, Emory  
Bellis, John  
Bellis, Richard  
\*Bellis, Robert S.  
\*Bender, Herman W.  
Bennett, Alfred J.  
Bennett, Julian M.  
Bennett, Robert  
Benson, Daniel C.  
Benson, Paul  
Benson, Thomas F.  
Beo, Achille  
Beo, Michael  
Bev, Nick  
\*Beyo, Paul  
Bernstein, Herman  
Bernstein, Jesse D.  
Best, Harold  
Betts, Donald Y.  
Betts, Glenn  
Beyer, Joseph II  
Beyer, Wm. F.  
Bhe, Harry S.  
Bianco, Dominic A.  
Bianco, Frank  
Bickley, Roy Ross  
Bidwell, David  
Bidwell, Peter Newell  
Biggs, Kenneth  
Bish, Clinton  
Bish, Eugene  
Bish, Mike, Jr.  
Blair, David M.  
Blair, John T.  
Blair, Wilson  
Blaisdell, Ralph L.  
Blair, Wm.  
Bleich, Miles.  
Bloom, Raymond  
Bloose, Jake

Blose, Lewis  
Blose, Matson  
\*Bodenhorn, Dale  
Bonadio, Frederick  
Bowers, Ethel  
Bowman, Henrietta  
Bowman, Joseph P.  
Boyd, Thomas A.  
Boyer, James  
Brady, Joseph  
Braughler, Owen R.  
Braund, Cyril  
Brennan, James F.  
Brennan, John  
Bridge, Thomas, Jr.  
Brociuous, Mervin, Jr.  
Brown, Archibald D.  
Brown, Betty  
Brown, David A.  
Brown, Donald  
Brown, Richard  
Brown, John  
Brown Donald W.  
Brown, Henry  
Brown, James  
Brown, John  
Brown, Leroy  
Brown, Wm. T.  
Buck, Rufus  
Burris, Grace  
Byers, Alton C., Jr.  
Byers, Ida  
Calabrese, Frank  
Calabrese, Laverne  
Calabrese, Thomas C.  
Caldwell, Betty  
Camuso, Dominic  
Camuso, Francis  
Capitanelli, John  
Carlino, George  
Carlson, Frank B.  
Carlton, Richard D.  
Carlton, John I.  
Carlton, Sid G.  
Carlton, Wm. O.  
\*Carnahan, Harry T.  
Carrick, James  
Carrier, Gerald B.  
Carrier, Jane  
Carzelli, Michael  
Casaday, Marvin  
Cassidy, Arthur  
Castronova, John  
Catanzarito, Joseph  
Catanzarito, Mike  
Catanzarito, Rocco  
Cavazza, Ernest H.  
Caylor, Ray  
Certo, Ernest E.  
Certo, Pete W.

Cesario, Donald  
Chambers, Howard  
Chambers, Irvin  
Chambers, James  
Chambers, Robert  
Chapman, Donald  
Chapman, Joy Belle  
Ciccone, Anthony J.  
Ciconne, Michael P.  
Clark, Carl  
Clark, George  
Clark, Naomi  
Clark, Robert E.  
Clark, Roy M., Jr.  
Clark, William  
Clawson, Arthur  
Clawson, Frederick  
Clawson, Leonard  
Clawson, Oakley  
Clawson, Walter  
Clements, Leo  
Clifford, Robert  
Clinch, Charles A.  
Clinch, Thomas  
Clontz, James A.  
Coble, Frances  
Coble, William  
Cochran, Charles L.  
Cokely, Miriam  
Cole, John  
Cole, Kenneth  
Colkitt, Earl  
Collins, John S.  
Collins, Joseph  
Collins, Robert E.  
Collins, Thomas  
Condon, Raymond H.  
Cook, Anthony  
Cooper, George W.  
Cope, Arthur J.  
Cope, Russell  
Costanzo, Frank S.  
Costanzo, Michael  
Costanzo, Thomas  
Couch, Charles W.  
Couch, James  
Cousins, Augustus  
Craft, Thomas Q.  
Craft, Everett  
Craig, James, Jr.  
Crawford, Frank, Jr.  
Crawford, John E.  
Crawford, Paul W.  
Criss, Robert W., Jr.  
Crissinger, Jack  
Crissman, Frank  
Cronin, John, Jr.  
Crossman, Ray  
Crummy, Edward, Jr.  
Curry, Harold L.

Curry, John F.  
Curry, Merle, Jr.  
Curry, Theodore  
Curry, William  
Curtis, Thomas.  
Dambrosia, Albert  
Dambrosia, Thomas  
Dambrosia, William  
Davis, Betsey  
Davis, Charles  
Davis, Chester  
\*Davis, Wendell  
Davis, Wm. C.  
\*Dawson, Robert  
Dawson, Shirley  
Decker, James W.  
DeFoor, Albert  
DeFoor, James  
DeFoor, Raymond  
DeFoor, Thomas  
Dellamaestra, Joseph  
DeLuca, Albert  
DeLuca, Arthur T.  
DeLuca, Ralph  
DeLuca, Roland J.  
Denton, David A.  
Depp, Carl  
Depp, David S.  
Depp, Glenn  
\*Depp, Glenn  
Depp, James M.  
Depp, Lamoyne M.  
Depp, Lillian  
Depp, Robert G.  
Depp, Robert Clair  
Dereume, August  
Derr, George  
Derr, Vincent J.  
Desandro, Don  
\*Devoe, Richard G.  
Dewitt, Eugene W.  
Dewitt, Norman  
Dewitt, Victor  
Dicello, Genarro  
Dick, Walter N.  
Diehl, Jack Byron  
Divelbiss, Harold  
Dock, Doris  
Domb, David L.  
Domb, Glenn A.  
Donahey, Jay  
D'Orazio, Anthony  
D'Orazio, George M.  
Dormire, Ralph Lisle  
Dowdell, Thomas E.  
Downie, James  
Droney, Paul  
Duganier, Anthony J.  
\*Duganier, Armon  
Duganier, Ronald



Dunmire, Lawrence E.  
 Dunmire, Phil  
 Dupont, Carl  
 Eberhart, Donald  
 Eberhart, Mary Jane  
 Ecklund, Norman  
 Ecklund, William  
 Eddy, Clarence H.  
 Edmundson, William  
 Eiser, Richard H.  
 Elder, David M.  
 Ellenberger, Frances  
 Ellenberger, Norma  
 Emberg, Donald E.  
 Emhoff, Elvin  
 Emhoff, Fred C.  
 Emhoff, John C.  
 Erdesky, John  
 Erdesky, Joseph T.  
 Ernest, John P., Jr.  
 Ernest, Joseph F.  
 Ernest, Leonard J.  
 Esposito, Donald  
 Esposito, Emilio  
 Esposito, Francis H.  
 Esposito, Gerald  
 Evans, Clyde R.  
 Evans, Howard E.  
 Fairman, Steve W.  
 Farri, Joseph E.  
 Fear, Frank  
 Feicht, Charles  
 Feicht, Paul  
 Feicht, Richard J.  
 Fera, Carl  
 Fera, John  
 Fera, Joseph  
 Fera, Julius  
 Fera, Robert  
 Fernichio, Dominic V.  
 Ferra, Eugene D.  
 Ferra, Francis J.  
 Ferri, Joseph  
 Ferri, Louis  
 Fetterman, Gerald  
 Fetterman, Max  
 Finch, Thomas  
 Fisher, Frederick W.  
 Fisher, John Jacob, Jr.  
 Flanagan, James V.  
 Fleckenstein, Andrew  
 Fleckenstein, Francis.  
 Fleming, David  
 Fleming, Gerald  
 Fleming, Harry C., Jr.  
 Fleming, Harry C., Sr.  
 Flick, Eleanor  
 Flick, Harry F.  
 Fonner, Arnold E.  
 Forcey, Albert C.  
 Forrest, Lawrence W.  
 Forsyth, Catherine An  
 Franklin, Josephine M  
 Freceone, Lucille C.  
 Frew, Charles  
 Friedline, James  
 Fry, Eugene  
 Fullerton, Katura M.  
 Furl, Fred  
 \*Furman, Clarence  
 Furniss, Harry  
 Fusco, Albert  
 Fusco, Frank R.  
 Fusco, George L.  
 Fusco, William  
 Galbraith, Thomas  
 Galloway, Harold  
 Gamble, Lee  
 Garnow, Frank  
 Gaskin, John S.  
 Gaskin, Richard A.  
 Gaston, Christian J.  
 Gaston, Clifton T.  
 Gearhart, Saul.  
 Gee, Harold  
 George, Max S.  
 German, Samuel F.  
 Gernat, John  
 Gianvito, Daniel  
 Gianvito, John J.  
 Gianvito, Rocco  
 Gibbons, Walter  
 Gigliotti, Dominic A.  
 Gigliotti, Charles A.  
 Gigliotti, George G.  
 Gigliotti, Joseph  
 Gill, William J.  
 Gillespie, Richard  
 Goldthwaite, Donald  
 Golias, Steven J.  
 Gotwald, Donald E.  
 Gotwald, Edward, Jr.  
 Gotwald, George  
 Gotwald, William, Jr.  
 Goulish, Peter  
 Gourley, Russell C., Jr.  
 Goyette, Anthony R.  
 Goyette, Joseph  
 Goyette, William  
 Graff, Donna Jane  
 Graff, Richard  
 Graff, Stanley  
 Graham, Wallace  
 Graul, Chester L.  
 Greenawalt, Clarence  
 Greenawalt, George  
 Greenblatt, Albert  
 Gregory, John V.  
 Gresock, Daniel  
 Gresock, Gabriel  
 Gresock, George  
 Gresock, John  
 Gresock, John A.  
 Groves, Thomas  
 Groves, Darrell  
 Groves, Donald  
 Grube, Alton G.  
 Grube, Blaine  
 Grube, Eugene C.  
 Grube, Herman  
 Grube, Lewis P.  
 Grube, Paul  
 Grube, Richard M.  
 Grube, Ronald M.  
 Grube, Sanford O.  
 Gruca, Leo  
 Guignet, Eugene.  
 Gumbert, Max  
 Gumbert, Ray  
 Gumbert, Walter B.  
 Gutelius, Harry  
 Guthrie, Harold  
 Guthrie, James  
 Guthrie, William, Jr.  
 Guzy, John W.  
 Guzy, Joseph L.  
 Haag, Harold  
 Haines, W. Ardell  
 Hall, Charles R.  
 Hallman, George  
 Hallman, John  
 Hamil, Robert, Jr.  
 Hamilton, Earl  
 Hamilton, Rita  
 Hampson, Richard  
 Hanelly, Lawrence J.  
 Haney, Joseph  
 Harl, Frank, Jr.  
 Harrold, Eugene  
 Harrick, Michael  
 Harriger, Max  
 Harrison, Donald  
 Hartzfeld, Edgar  
 Havrilla, Albert L.  
 Havrilla, George  
 Hazlett, Howard S.  
 Hazlett, Nur  
 Heberling, Richard  
 Heckendorn, Wm. H.  
 Henry, Boyd  
 Henry, John W.  
 Hetager, Karl K.  
 Hetrick, Donald  
 Hetrick, Robert  
 Hewitt, Robert C.  
 Hicks, Mark  
 Hill, William  
 Hilton, Francis H.  
 Himes, Harry  
 Hinkle, William J.  
 Hinton, Jack W.  
 \*Hinton, Kenneth C.  
 Hinton, Lorrain  
 Hippchen, Donald  
 Hippchen, Fred B.  
 Hockinson, Melvin C.  
 Hockinson, Robert  
 Hoffman, David  
 Hoffman, James W.  
 Hogan, David  
 Hogan, Donald  
 Hogan, Earl Eugene  
 Hogan, Edward  
 Hogan, James H.  
 Hogan, John  
 Hogan, Lee  
 Hogan, Robert T.  
 Hogan, Walter J.  
 Holben, Edward  
 \*Holdsworth, Robert  
 Hollis, Richard  
 Hollis, Walter  
 Hook, John  
 Horner, James R.  
 Hoy, Alva  
 Hoy, Alexander V.  
 Hritz, George  
 Hritz, John  
 Hritz, Michael  
 Hudak, George A.  
 Hudak, Joseph  
 Hudak, Martin E.  
 Hudak, Nick  
 Hudak, William  
 Hudock, Carl J.  
 Hudock, Edward  
 Hudock, Joseph J.  
 Hudock, Mike  
 Huebner, Norma E.  
 Humm, Clair  
 Humm, John  
 Humm, Walter B.  
 Hunger, John  
 Hunter, Joseph M.  
 Hurd, Melvin  
 Hutchins, Myron J.  
 Hutchins, Violet K.  
 Hutchison, Fred  
 Ifert, James Richard  
 Ifert, William  
 Infantino, Angelo  
 Infantino, Anthony  
 Infantino, Barclay  
 Infantino, John  
 Infantino, Samuel  
 Infantino, Thomas  
 Isenberg, Charles  
 Ishman, Jack  
 Ishman, Wayne  
 Jack, J. T.  
 Jack, Phil  
 Jack Robert  
 Jacobson, Robert  
 Jaquish, Patricia  
 Jasulevich, John Jr.  
 Jasulevich, Walter  
 Jenks, John W.  
 Jenkins, Thomas  
 Jerko, Delmas  
 Jerko, George  
 Jesensky, Madeline  
 \*Johns, Orville  
 \*Johnson, George  
 Johnson, Marias R.  
 Johnson, Veronica M.  
 Johnson, Wilbert P.  
 Jones, Daniel, Jr.  
 Jones, David, Jr.  
 Jones, Gwilym C.  
 Jones, Kenneth H.  
 Jones, Paul  
 Jordan, Donald  
 Jordan, Josef  
 Jordan, Lloyd  
 Jordan, Paul  
 Jordan, Phil  
 Jordan, Thomas R., Jr.  
 Jordan, Walter F.  
 Joyner, Levi  
 Kane, Joseph  
 Kann, Robert O.  
 Kanouff, LaRue  
 Kaza, Andrew  
 Kaza, John J.  
 Kaza, Joseph J.  
 Kaza, William B.  
 Kearney, Maxine  
 Keck, Theodore B.  
 Keihlor, George  
 Kellander, B. C., Jr.  
 Kelly, Harry  
 Kelley, Samuel  
 Kelly, George  
 Kelso, John  
 Kelso, Thomas D.  
 Kemp, Fred  
 Kendra, John  
 Kendra, Paul  
 Kephart, Robert E.  
 King, Carl  
 \*King, Donald  
 Kingsley, Wm. H.  
 \*Knarr, John  
 Knoble, David  
 Knopick, George  
 Knopick, John  
 Knopick, William  
 Kopp, Charles  
 Korsmo, Karl  
 Korsmo, Thomas  
 Kovalyak, Joseph W.  
 Kremkau, Paul  
 Kromer, Lester E.  
 Krouse, Glenn  
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 \*Schepis, Frank

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 \*Thomas, Thad G.  
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 \*Williams, Rebecca  
 \*Wilmoth, Dixon  
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 \*Wise, Thomas A.  
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